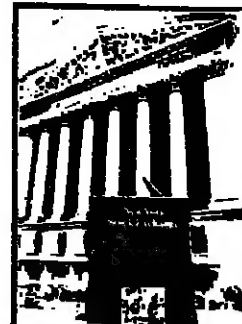


Computers in the ultra-Orthodox world
See tomorrow's 'Post'

THE JERUSALEM POST

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1.5% rise in CPI for March

Post Economic Staff
The consumer price index for March 1986 rose by 1.5 per cent the lowest inflation rate for March since the 1.3 per cent rise recorded in 1971. Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i said yesterday during a farewell news conference prior to his leaving office today.

The Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday that inflation over the last three months totalled 1.8 per cent equal to an annual rate of 7.4 per cent. In the eight months following the July index, the rate of inflation has amounted to a total of 16 per cent — barely half of the rate for July itself. The CPI now stands at 138.8 points on a basis of the average for 1985=equalling 100.

In the last 12 months, prices have risen 116.9 per cent.

The key sub-sectors of the CPI in March were as follows: food prices rose by 1 per cent, while fruit and vegetables jumped 2.4 per cent; home maintenance rose 0.3 per cent; furniture and household appliances 1.8 per cent; health 1.8 per cent; education and culture 2.3 per cent.

The 25 per cent increase in bus fares caused a 4.2 per cent rise in the transport index. "Other" items, such as haircuts, rose 1.1 per cent. The only sector to show a decline was clothing and footwear, which dropped by 2.6 per cent.

The wholesale price index rose by 1.1 per cent, and the cumulative rise over the year to date reached 3.7 per cent.

Travel tax will be increased from April 17 in line with the rise in the CPI.

The tax will be NIS 182 (about \$121) for all countries except Romania and Egypt. To Romania the tax will now be NIS 91 (\$61). Travel to Egypt will remain tax-free.

Current estimates are that the consumer price index will rise about twice as much in April as it did in March. This increase will stem primarily from a rise in the price of...



American planes lined up on the deck of the aircraft carrier America in the Mediterranean yesterday, following the air strike on Libya. (Reuters telephoto)

Pentagon wanted as much firepower as possible

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent and Agencies

WASHINGTON. — Senior Pentagon officials yesterday justified their decision to use British-based F-111 fighter bombers in the air strike against Libya.

They said that the F-111s were more suited to the pin-point bombing operation than the carrier-based A-6 and A-7 attack fighters which were much closer to the Libyan targets. A combination of F-111s and the carrier-based planes was used in the mission.

They used laser-guided "smart" bombs against the Libyan targets,

described by White House spokesman Larry Speakes as "Gaddafi's terrorist infrastructure — the command and control systems, communications, logistics and training facilities."

American officials said they wanted to have as much firepower as possible available during the operation. "That's why we needed the F-111s," one expert said.

The U.S. was denied permission by Italy to use American F-4 Phantom and other planes based there.

U.S. officials said that one American F-111 bomber involved in the mission was still missing, together with its crew.

U.S. might hit Libya again as criticism of air-raid mounts

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent and Agencies

WASHINGTON. — The Reagan administration hinted at further action against Gaddafi last night as it strongly defended its decision to bomb military targets in Libya. The U.S. also braced itself for negative political fallout from its more cautious West European allies and for a new round of Libyan-sponsored terrorism.

Early yesterday morning, 33 U.S. Air Force and Navy jets based in

Britain and on aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean swooped down on assorted military targets in Tripoli and Benghazi. One F-111 bomber was thought to have been shot down, and about 100 Libyan casualties were reported, some of them civilians.

As anti-aircraft fire resounded repeatedly over Tripoli last night, and as Libyan coastal batteries fired out to sea in anticipation of a new U.S. raid, the Soviet Union demanded an immediate halt to the American attacks. The Soviet Union said in a statement that if the "aggressive bandit action" did not stop, then it

would have to draw more "far-reaching conclusions."

The Soviets yesterday called off the planned trip to Washington in mid-May by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, during which he was to make arrangements for a summit this year between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

U.S. officials sought to play down the long-term significance of the cancellation of Shevardnadze's trip. "There will be other meetings," an American official said.

But the Americans conceded that prospects for an early summit meet-

ing between Gorbachev and Reagan were now more remote.

Secretary of State George Shultz said the Soviet Embassy in Washington had been informed of the operation while it was under way. Other U.S. officials said the Reagan administration had also made available to the Soviets the nature of the evidence implicating Libya for several planned terrorist actions.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kab said that the action taken against Libya was "in no way directed against the Soviet Union. The action that we have taken was

(Continued on Back Page)

Libya urges Arab states to take up arms for jihad

TRIPOLI. — Libyan missiles were fired at a U.S. Coast Guard base on the Italian island of Lampedusa yesterday, after U.S. jets pounded targets in Libya on Monday night, killing or wounding scores of people.

Because some of the U.S. planes that attacked Libya flew from bases in England, Libya called on Arab nations to act against Britain and the U.S.

The Libyan missiles that were fired at the U.S. installation on Lampedusa fell harmlessly into the sea.

Libyan radio last night called for a jihad (holy war) against the U.S., and urged the Arab world to take up arms against Americans everywhere.

The call for war, however, was apparently accompanied by peace feelers. Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans said yesterday that Libya had asked Belgium to mediate a truce with the U.S. But Tripoli later denied it had made such a request.

Libyan radio said that the overnight U.S. raids on Tripoli and Benghazi had caused serious damage. Targets in Tripoli included the Bab al-Azizya barracks, home of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Gaddafi did not appear publicly yesterday or meet with Western reporters, and Libyan reports that he was unharmed could not be confirmed.

Gaddafi reportedly met yesterday morning with the Soviet ambassador

to Libya, according to the Libyan news agency. According to Damascus Radio, the Libyan leader spoke by telephone with Syrian President Hafez Assad yesterday. The Algerian news agency reported that Gaddafi had also spoken with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

The BBC's correspondent in Tripoli reported last night that Gaddafi's 15-month-old adopted daughter was killed and his two youngest sons were injured in the U.S. attack.

Arab reaction, Security Council — Page 2
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The network said the children had suffered from explosion pressure blasts while with their mother Sofia was in a barracks hit in the attack. The mother was described as being in a state of shock.

In Washington, the White House spokesman told reporters that the U.S. had carefully pin-pointed and hit five targets in the bombing.

They were the military side of Tripoli Airport, the Bab al-Azizya barracks (which the spokesman described as a planning and direction centre for Gaddafi's terror network), a port facility and underwater training school, an alternative com-

(Continued on Back Page)



A photo distributed by the Libyan news agency yesterday with the caption: "We build, the U.S. destroys. Another photograph of the consequence of the U.S. perfidious aggression in Tripoli this morning." (Reuters telephoto)

Firm Israeli support for attack amid feeling of 'We told you so'

By YOSSI MELMAN
For Davar

The enthusiastic support voiced yesterday by Israeli leaders for the American bombing of Libya could not conceal an undertone of "we told you so."

For years Israel has been conducting a largely fruitless campaign in the international community, urging others to follow its example of not only putting up a strong defence against terror attacks, but also of

ANALYSIS

striking against those states that are the biggest backers of international terror.

For example, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday that "anyone who seeks to defeat terror must first strike at those countries

(Continued on Page 7)

Moda'i tells a farewell press conference:

Inflation could fall to 1% a month

Post Economic Staff

Outgoing finance minister Yitzhak Moda'i yesterday predicted that after a one-time blip in April, the increase in the consumer price index for the coming months would be around the levels recorded in recent months — between 1 and 1.5 per cent. If, however, the Treasury realizes existing plans regarding budgetary and wage restraints, the rate of inflation could fall to a monthly rate of 0.6 to 1 per cent.

The exchange rate of the shekel against the dollar will not rise in the near future, Moda'i continued, and maintenance of economic stability could be ensured by adhering to three conditions:

- Sticking within the budget framework.
- Forbidding any increase in wages.
- In Moda'i's opinion no increase is justified or necessary because purchasing power has been restored

to its pre-July 1985 level.

- Maintaining a very tight monetary policy. This is crucial, in order to prevent growth resulting from printing money or converting foreign currency into shekels.

In a press conference to mark his departure from the Finance Ministry, Moda'i reviewed his achievements during 19 months in office. He said he was not angry, but sad, at having been forced to step down, because he would have liked to complete the programme that he had set in motion.

Regarding the clash with Prime Minister Peres that had sparked off the crisis leading to his replacement, Moda'i again expressed his regret, wishing that "the past month could be erased from the record."

In Moda'i's opinion, his main achievements included the increase in Israel's foreign currency reserves, from \$1.9b. when he took office to

\$3b. today; the sharp fall in the rate of inflation, from over 400 per cent annually to about 25 per cent today; and the reduction of the trade deficit in the fiscal year ending last month, to an average \$177m. per month, compared to \$198m. in the previous year.

Moreover, these gains had been made without a major surge in unemployment since the level of unemployment in January-March 1986 was 6.6 per cent, compared with 6.8 per cent in the same quarter of last year.

Gross wages fell during the last fiscal year by 13 per cent after rising by 5.7 per cent in 1984/85, but net wages fell only 5.8 per cent in 1985/86, compared with a rise of 1.4 per cent in 1984/85. The situation at the end of March, however, after the sharp swings during the year, was that present wages were only 0.3 per cent lower than a year ago.

Palestinian refugees tour planned resettlement site

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAFAH. — A major Israeli-Egyptian repatriation programme for Palestinian refugees got under way yesterday with the visit of 23 refugees living in Egyptian-controlled Rafah to the site of their prospective resettlement in the Gaza Strip.

The refugees live in the Canada camp on the Egyptian side of the divided city, and are the first of about 4,300 persons to be relocated under a 1982 agreement between Israel and Egypt. Implementation of the agreement was delayed, but is now moving ahead as part of the recent progress in normalization between the two countries.

In 1972 the refugees were moved from a camp in Rafah to the newly-built Canada camp.

The 23 refugees crossed through a gate in the border fence which divides Rafah. They were accompanied by an Egyptian liaison officer and a local government official. Scores of residents of Israeli-controlled Rafah gathered at a distance from the crossing point as the visitors were registered, some according to identity cards issued when they lived under Israeli rule. Few onlookers could be seen on the Egyptian side.

The visitors then boarded a bus which took them on a brief visit to the resettlement site at Tel Sultan.

They said they were moving to reunite with relatives whom they hadn't seen since the border fence



Refugees slated for resettlement in the Gaza Strip being checked by an IDF officer before a visit to the Strip yesterday. Their Egyptian escort stands far left. (Andre Brummann)

was constructed. Israeli officials said Egypt was anxious to be rid of the refugees.

Talking to reporters under the watchful gaze of the Egyptian liaison officer, some of the refugees complained they had not been allowed off the bus to visit the sites of their future homes. Others said they had received none of the financial aid promised them by Egypt, and had detected no visible signs of the new neighbourhood. "I just saw flowers," said one.

Egypt is to pay each refugee family \$8,000 as compensation for leaving homes in the Canada camp. The money is to be used by the refugees for construction of new houses on 500 plots at Tel Sultan. Israel spent \$1.5 million in 1982 to prepare the infrastructure for the new neighbourhood, including electric power lines, sewage pipes, water systems, and roads.

Additional Israeli funds will be required for the construction of schools, health clinics and a com-

mercial centre in the new neighbourhood. The refugees will also receive job placement assistance from the Gaza Civil Administration.

Rafi Sadeh, head of the Refugee Rehabilitation Department of the Civil Administration, said registration of the incoming refugees would take some 25 weeks, but he declined to say when the resettlement would begin.

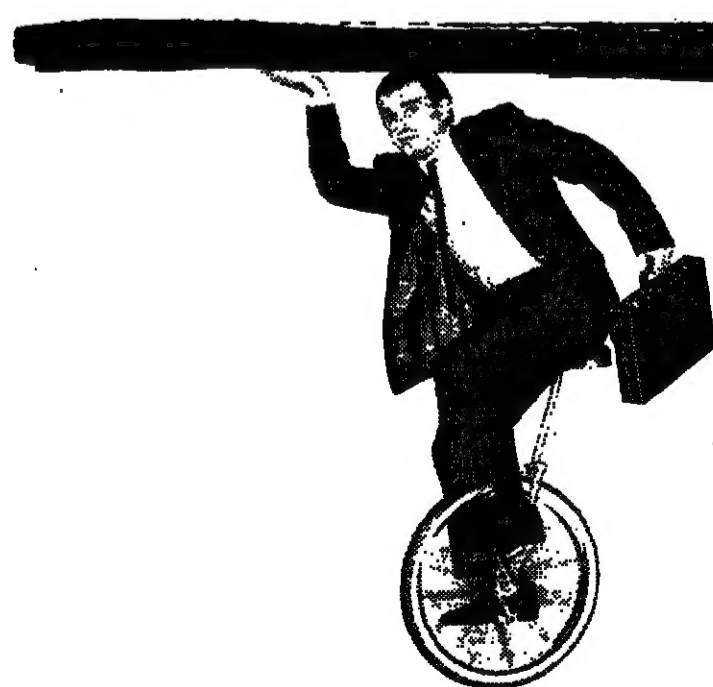
Jewish settlers, protesting against the planned resettlement, squatted at Tel Sultan early yesterday morning, but were moved out by IDF troops, as the area was declared a closed military zone.

The settlers say the influx of hostile elements among the refugees will create a security problem in the area. OC Southern Command Aluf Uri Saguy yesterday rejected the charge. "It's not an unusual development, and the security forces can handle it," he said.

"While development towns are running out of money, funds are spent on Arabs from Egypt," said Yigal Kirschenshaft, a leading settler activist.

The coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmuel Goren, yesterday rejected charges that the resettlement was a demographic "time bomb." He said it "has no demographic meaning" for the Gaza Strip. He added that all the refugees had originally been residents of Rafah, and that 57 of them cross the border every week to work in the Gaza Strip, including in the Civil Administration.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU REACH THE OVERDRAFT CEILING AT YOUR BANK?



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IMPROVED CURRENT ACCOUNT
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shares, foreign currency, check and cash deposits, cash withdrawals from bank automats, etc. The conclusion is clear: You need an additional account. You need an IMPROVED CURRENT ACCOUNT.

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	15.46	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
BERLIN	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
BIRMINGHAM	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
DUBLIN	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
GENEVA	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
LONDON	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
LUXEMBOURG	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
MILAN	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
MONTREAL	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
MOSCOW	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
PARIS	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
ROME	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
SARAJEVO	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
ST. PETERSBURG	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
TOKYO	15.46	12	18	Cloudy
ZURICH	15.46	12	18	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

swissair

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to fair.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	50	16-20	18
Golan	57	18-21	21
Nahariya	51	15-18	18
Safed	46	16-19	19
Haifa Port	46	16-19	19
Be'er Sheva	46	16-19	19
Jericho	46	16-19	19
Gaza	46	16-19	19
Beersheba	46	16-19	19
Eilat	46	16-19	19

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

President Chaim Herzog yesterday received at Beit Hanassi the foreign minister of Singapore, Suppia Dhanabalan. Singapore is one of the countries Herzog will visit on his Far East and Oceania tour in November.

Technion Prof. Giora Shaviv will speak at the Haifa Rotary Club's luncheon meeting in the Nof Hotel at 1 o'clock today.

Prof. Brian Winston of New York University delivered the Jerome L. Joss Lecture and received the Joss Prize in communications on Monday at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, in the presence of Mr. Jerome L. Joss of Sherman Oaks, Calif.

The Florence Dworsky Conservatory for tropical plants was dedicated yesterday in the Jerusalem and University Botanical Garden on the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the presence of Mrs. Florence Dworsky of Jerusalem, University President Prof. Don Patinkin, Australian Ambassador Dr. Robert S. Merrilees, and Mayor Teddy Kollek.

CPI RISE

(Continued from Page One)

marily for the jump in municipal taxes, which will add over 0.5 percent as well as a seasonal rise in the price of fruit and vegetables and the introduction of summer clothes. The big unknown is the housing price index, which could have a marked effect in either direction on the total index for the month — as occurred last January, when the CPI fell by 1.3 percent.

Prime Minister Peres said yesterday in Nazareth that he was pleased about the inflation rate and expected the current trend to continue. "The index reflects the fact that there is no suppressed inflation," Peres said. "The steps that have been taken have been proven correct and it is possible to continue moving the economy forward."

Michal Yudelman adds: Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar expressed satisfaction yesterday with the relatively low rise in the CPI. But he blasted the government for raising public transportation fares, saying that the step had been an injustice to the lower classes, particularly at a time when fuel prices are dropping on world markets.

The increase in the price of public transportation had caused nearly half the rise in the index.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Aftermath of illegal adoption network

Brazilian woman is remanded by Tel Aviv court

By YORAM GAZIT

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — A 37-year-old Brazilian woman, who is suspected of being involved in an illegal adoption network of Brazilian children, was remanded in custody for 13 days by the Tel Aviv Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Police are investigating allegations that Brazilian tourist Ariette Hilo, who identified herself as a lawyer, had used forged documents to arrange the adoption of Brazilian babies for dozens of childless Israeli couples.

Hilo was arrested on Sunday at Sde Dov Airport on her return from a vacation in Eilat, on suspicion of using a forged passport under the name of Wilma Ferrara Oliveira.

Dozens of Israeli couples have allegedly paid

thousands of dollars each for illegal adoptions. The police suspect that some of these babies may have been kidnapped.

Two Israeli couples who adopted Brazilian babies were recently detained for questioning in the U.S., when one adopted baby was discovered to have a forged passport. The baby was reportedly returned to Brazil.

Several Israeli couples who have adopted Brazilian children through Hilo appeared for the hearing and greeted the suspect emotionally.

Hilo's attorney admitted that his client had used a false passport, but argued that the charges against Hilo were the concern of the Brazilian government. Israel should not intervene in the case, he suggested, noting that there is no extradition agreement between Israel and Brazil.

The police representative showed the court

confidential documents and asked for the extension of Hilo's remand order to find the other passports that the suspect allegedly used.

Hilo told reporters: "I operated partly for humanitarian reasons. Every year four million children are being born in Brazil. Those children die of disease and malnutrition in Brazil, but Israel and other countries need those children."

Hilo said she has two adopted children of her own. One of them, aged one-and-a-half, is suffering from a heart disease; the other is 18 and lives in Brazil.

Hilo's attorney, Shmuel Pe'er, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the prosecution of his client was "a witch-hunt."

"We agreed to her leaving the country quietly, but someone high up needed this scandal," Pe'er said.

Finance, Justice portfolio switch before Knesset today

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

The Knesset will today approve the appointment of Justice Minister Moshe Nissim as the new minister of finance, and of Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i as the new minister of justice, in the wake of last week's worst-ever coalition crisis, which ended on Sunday night.

Prime Minister Peres, who brought the crisis about when he resolved to permanently dislodge Moda'i from the Treasury, will present the redistribution of portfolios in the plenum at a special session called during the current Pessah recess.

In the two- or three-hour debate that will follow Peres's statement, opposition MKs are sure to point out that both Nissim and Moda'i are inexperienced in their new portfolios, and that the national interest will not necessarily be served by the switch between the two. Coalition MKs will take pains to explain their particular view of the coalition crisis, and will settle scores with each other, after the abuse and rhetoric engendered by the quarrel between the Alignment and the Likud.

Following the Knesset vote of

approval, the session will have to be interrupted so that the cabinet can convene to approve the reappointment of the Alignment's Adi Amoral as deputy finance minister. This is because Moda'i's relinquishment of the finance portfolio automatically entails the lapse of Amoral's term as his deputy.

When the session resumes, and Amoral's reappointment is approved by the Knesset, he will present a number of controversial fiscal measures which are sure to provoke heated debate and even infractions of coalition discipline. These include the imposition of the education levy, the imposition of the vehicle levy for the second year running, and the tax on National Insurance old age pensions for the higher income brackets.

The House Committee meets early in the day to discuss Tehiya's request for a motion of no confidence in the government, in the light of Peres's recognition, at the Labour Party convention, of the existence of "a Palestinian people."

The two government proposals to outlaw publication of incitement to racism, and meetings between Israeli and PLO functionaries, will not come up today.

With 10,000 seeking work Haifa urges Nissim to make unemployment top priority

By DAVID RUDGE

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Labour Council secretary Moshe Wertman yesterday called on finance minister-designate Moshe Nissim to make the fight against unemployment in this recession-hit region one of his first priorities.

The Haifa area has one of the highest jobless rates in the country, with around 10,000 people looking for work, according to the labour council's figures.

The agreement to reduce the Israel Shipyard's workforce by one-third from 642 to 430 will add to the number of people on the dole, and Wertman warns of worse to come.

Employees of the Vulcan Foundries, who have been on strike for nearly seven weeks, are being asked to accept further lay-offs and cuts in pay and fringe benefits as the price for ensuring the firm's future.

A deal involving the dismissal of around 25 employees and a reduction in the firm's wage bill by over 10 percent is expected to be signed in the next few days.

Recently, 36 employees were laid off from the Cables and Electric Wires company in the bayside industrial zone.

These redundancies come after a wave of earlier dismissals, resulting from the closure of the Ata and Tip Top textile firms and the Barzeverin metal works, as well as setbacks at the Defence Ministry's Armaments Development Authority (Rafael), Soltan, Zim and in the public service and commercial sectors.

The labour council blames outgoing finance minister Yitzhak Moda'i for the closure of Ata, with the

loss of 900 jobs.

Wertman maintains that the textile firm could have been saved if Moda'i had agreed to contribute a further \$2 million towards a takeover bid.

Wertman also blames the government economic policies for the plight of many other firms and the subsequent rise in the number of jobless.

Wertman hopes that Nissim will be more sympathetic to the problems of the region and help repair some of the damage caused by his Liberal Party colleague.

The council wants the government's assistance to encourage new industry to set up shop in the area and create jobs.

According to Wertman, with the exception of high-tech companies, no new factories have been established in this city or its surrounding areas during the past 20 years, and consequently there is a dearth of jobs.

The situation is likely to deteriorate further after Pessah, when more dismissals are expected from Solel Boneh (up to 800 workers), Kupat Holim, Zim (300 employees), Megashosh, and Defence Ministry establishments.

"We are calling on Nissim to help set up new factories to deal with the problems of the thousands who are unemployed at the moment and the thousands more who will find themselves out of work in the future," Wertman said.

"Unemployment is a social time bomb which threatens stability and the economic future of the region. It is a problem that cannot and must not be swept under the carpet."

U.S. raps alleged torture of Shi'ite

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. has sharply protested to Israel the alleged torture of an American citizen of Lebanese Shi'ite ancestry who contends he was brutally mistreated during five weeks of detention in South Lebanon.

The Israeli Embassy in Washington yesterday denied that Israeli officials had been involved in the alleged torture of Ghazi Dabaja, a naturalized American citizen who now lives in Dearborn, Michigan.

Yossi Gal, the embassy spokesman, said the Israeli Defense Forces had actually stopped the "improper treatment" of Dabaja by the members of pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army.

Dabaja, who is now based in Dearborn, filed a sworn statement on March 20 at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, noting that he had been picked up by the SLA on February 12, a day after arriving in his home town of Bint Jbail from the U.S. with his eight-year-old son. His parents still live in Bint Jbail.

Sarid complains to police on assault

By JOEL GREENBERG

Citizen Rights Movement MK

Yossi Sarid has lodged a formal complaint with the police, and Peace Now leaders have demanded the prosecution of Jewish settlers who blocked and harassed them Monday on their way to a meeting organized by Peace Now in Hebron.

Sarid charged he had been "punched and kicked" by members of Gush Emunim and Kach, who were led by Judea and Samaria Settlement Council head Otniel Schneller, and

Kiryat Arba local council head Shalom Wach.

Peace Now also requested an urgent meeting with Defence Minister Rabin and demanded that Schneller and Wach be prosecuted.

In a telegram to Rabin, Sarid and MK Shulamit Aloni (CRM) demanded that other settlers be arrested and investigated. Aloni said she would show the Knesset today a document signed by Schneller containing detailed instructions for setting up roadblocks.

United Arab response on Libya unlikely

Diplomatic sources in the Arab world yesterday said there was little chance of a concerted Arab response to Libya's more extreme demands for action, including a call that all U.S. assets in Arab states be nationalized, U.S. citizens be placed under house arrest, and diplomatic relations with Washington be broken off.

An Arab diplomatic source at The Hague said the demands would appear on the agenda of a special emergency meeting of Arab League foreign ministers called by Libya, Syria and Algeria, which would probably take place in Tunis on Friday.

The Syrian news agency Sana, quoting an official source, said Damascus was putting its "full potential" at Libya's disposal and called on the Arab world to take measures to "foil the aims of U.S. aggression."

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat Sherif said Cairo had learned "with shock and great disappointment" of the U.S. attack and "the loss in human lives of innocent sons of the brotherly Libyan people."

He was speaking after a two-hour emergency meeting between President Hosni Mubarak, Prime Minister Ali Luthi and Defence Minister Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala.

Egypt's relations with Libya are usually tense, with an armed truce on their joint border. But Sherif said military operations and recourse to force could not settle international problems or reduce tension in the world.

In Amman, a senior Jordanian government official said the U.S. attack was fraught with dangers.

"The American measure is sensitive and extremely dangerous, and may lead to still more dangerous results," Information Minister Mohammed al-Khatib said.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan condemned the attack, and said it would be discussed at a meeting of Non-Aligned nations in New Delhi.

The Palestine Liberation Organization expressed "total solidarity" with Libya and called on all Arab states to defend their land and dignity against "the American invaders."

The PLO also criticized British involvement in approving the use of U.S. warplanes based in Britain in the raid.

Saudi Arabia reacted with unprecedented speed, expressing support for the Libyan people and expressing regret at the use of methods contrary to all international conventions.

Other Gulf states were slow to react, though the Kuwaiti parliament called for "action to end American terrorist aggression."

Of Libya's other neighbours, Tunisia, which is also pro-American, did not comment immediately. But Algeria, whose relations with Tripoli have improved greatly in recent months, condemned the raid.

Libya's main non-Arab supporter, Iran, said it was "prepared to make any sacrifice against this savage act." Radio Teheran monitored in Paris reported.

The message was delivered by Iranian President Ali Khamenei to Foreign Ministers Kamel Hassan Mansour of Libya and Farouk Shareh of Syria, who arrived in Teheran Monday.

In Beirut, Druse leader Walid Jumblatt branded the air strikes as an "aggressive preparation that threatens peace in the Mediterranean area."

In a statement released by his Progressive Socialist Party, Jumblatt called for "solidarity among all forces of progress and peace in the area to resist these practices."

Turkey voiced disapproval at the air attack and called for international cooperation against terrorism.

Turkey, which firmly believes talks and peaceful means should not be ignored for solving problems, cannot reconcile the air raids on Libya with the principles of international law, a government statement said. (AFP, AP)

U.S. and Libya clash at UN Council

By WALTER RUBY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

UNITED NATIONS. — The U.S. and Libya traded verbal blows in the Security Council here yesterday, with Libyan Ambassador Rajab Azwarouk castigating "the barbaric, savage raids by the U.S." while U.S. chief delegate Vernon Walters said that "murderous violence" by Libya's leader Muammar Gaddafi had forced the U.S. to strike "terrorist sites" in Libya.

Prior to the opening of the debate yesterday afternoon, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar issued a statement that appeared to condemn both Libya and the U.S.

He said he "deplores sponsorship by [UN] member states of terrorist activities which are contrary to the UN Charter and involve the killing of innocent civilians...[and] deplores last night's military action by one member state against another, and further utilization of armed force reported to the Libyan attack on the U.S. radar station on the Italian island near Libya."

Noting that President Reagan had also invoked Article 51 of the charter

regarding self-defence, Azwarouk asserted: "The barbaric, savage raids by the U.S. were not in self-defence. Would that article be voiced to justify a Libyan raid against Texas?"

In reply, Walters said that the targets the U.S. struck were "part of Libya's military infrastructure," and were used to carry out "Libya's harsh policy of international terrorism, including ongoing attacks against U.S. citizens and installations."

Frutarom in danger

By DAVID RUDGE

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Frutarom electrochemical company is once again in imminent danger of collapse due to serious cash-flow problems.

General manager Arlik Markman told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that he intends to begin sending the plant's 530 workers on indefinite leave from today.

He said the plant would slowly grind to a halt unless it receives a guaranteed, uninterrupted supply of ethylene — the feedstock used in the production of PVC resins.

In deep sorrow we announce the death

SUSAN

on April 14, 1986 in New York.

Husband: Danny Cohen, Jerusalem
Children: Sandy, Michal and David
Parents and family in the United States and Israel

Shocked and saddened by the untimely death of our

beloved father and grandfather

ABA ARBITMAN

who passed away at age eighty, a young man.

The funeral will leave from the Sarphedim Funeral Parlour, for the Har Hamenuhot cemetery, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem, at 12 noon on Thursday, April 17.

Shiva at daughter Naomi's home, 18 Reh. Mevo Hama'avak, French Hill, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-815127.

Daughters: Tamar and Gad Nauman
Ruth and Bill Smith
Naomi and Gil Weinstein
and grandchildren

Our beloved

ABNER SHALMON
(Werner Salomon)

whose untimely death has taken him from us forever.

The funeral will be held tomorrow, Thursday, April 17, 1986 at 10:30 a.m. We will meet at the new Kfar Samir cemetery, Haifa.

The Bereaved:
His children: Ruth, Ronit, Boaz
His brothers: Frank and Robert

The Minister of Justice, the Director-General, Director of the Property Assessment Department and Ministry staff

announce in deep sorrow, the passing of

MAURICE KIRSCHENBAUM

and share the grief of the family.

Flatto safe here — whatever he did abroad

By BARBARA AMOUYAL

For The Jerusalem Post

Samuel Flatto-Sharon, wanted by French authorities for embezzlement, has nothing to fear from the Israel Police or Justice Ministry officials following his surprise arrival here Monday evening.

The only possible complication facing the millionaire former Knesset member, who was arrested last October in Italy following requests from France, is that Italy may ask to have Flatto-Sharon tried in Israel for violating an Italian court order. But Justice Ministry and police officials

concur that the chance of this happening is "remote to nil."

Reports that Flatto-Sharon entered the country with a forged Israeli passport were incorrect, a spokesman for national police headquarters told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. According to the spokesman, Flatto-Sharon entered the country legally using his old MK identification card. "Whatever tricks he pulled on Italian or Swiss authorities don't concern us; in our book, the man is kosher," he said. Flatto-Sharon flew here from Zurich, after jumping bail in Italy.

Meeting of Veteran Members of Maccabi Hatzair — Brith Zofim

We invite members of "Maccabi Hatzair" to a reunion, as one of the jubilee events of Kibbutz Kfar Hamaccabi. The meeting will take place on Saturday, May 3, 1986 at the kibbutz. Please regard this as a personal invitation and confirm your participation in writing. Lehitraot.

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הלוא מן האל

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Financial irregularities, mismanagement alleged

Call for sacking WZO youth dep't heads in U.S.

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Some key leaders of the American Zionist Organization's Youth and Hehalutz Department in the U.S. are demanding that the department's senior Israeli representative be immediately recalled. This official, whose duties include supervising the work of 100 WZO shlichim (emissaries) in the U.S., has been accused of financial irregularities, mismanagement, and exploiting his position to advance the political interests of the World Maccabi Union.

These leaders are also pressing for the resignation of the chairman of the American Zionist Youth Federation (AZYF), the body that sponsors the Youth and Hehalutz Department in the U.S., whom they hold responsible for the situation that has brought the national office of the AZYF to the "verge of organizational bankruptcy."

These and other charges are contained in a letter obtained by *The Jerusalem Post*, written by AZYF vice-chairman Henry Everett to AZYF chairman Eli Zborowski. Other sources in New York have confirmed and added to these allegations. Two of the AZYF leaders who reportedly support these charges against Zborowski and the Israeli representative, Yoav Tal, are former AZYF chairmen Prof. David Sidorsky and Bernard White.

In addition to supervising the work of 100 youth movement and community shlichim, the AZYF organizes summer programmes in Israel each year for over 6,000 youths and

students, sponsors Zionist work on college campuses, and provides educational services to youth movements and student groups. The AZYF also handles the millions of dollars collected each year from participants in Israel programmes run by Youth and Hehalutz.

The AZYF has also been concerned about an evaluation study done on the Youth and Hehalutz summer programmes in Israel, which was reportedly highly critical of the department.

In an interview with *The Post*, Zborowski vehemently denied any wrongdoing on his part or by the Israeli representative, and said that the AZYF was functioning "as vigorously as ever." He confirmed that a meeting of the AZYF leadership would be called this week, when it is expected that these issues will be formally raised.

Some of the problems stem from a vacuum that existed for several months late last year in the AZYF head office in New York, following the resignation of the director after an 11-year tenure. The director is always an American appointed by AZYF, while the post of deputy director is occupied by the senior Youth and Hehalutz representative. A new director took over in January, but in the interim Tal assumed his post and, it is alleged, began to "usurp authority" previously held by the American director.

The conflict between the WZO representative and the new AZYF director, Ellen Isler, has reached the point where Tal has refused to regard himself as the deputy director.

as his predecessors had done, preferring an independent status; and where the senior shlichim in the New York office are not cooperating on some matters with the new director. These and other factors have created a situation where the AZYF departments are in a state of "demoralization and disarray."

Isler would not comment on specific charges, but confirmed that "there are problems" and said she hoped they could be resolved.

It has been alleged that Tal used an American Express credit card belonging to the AZYF for personal expenses, that the AZYF car leased for the use of the office has in effect become his personal vehicle, and that the AZYF paid his traffic fines.

It has also been alleged that Tal "spent a major part of his efforts and travel expenses" working for the Maccabi World Union, a Zionist political body with strong ties to the Liberal Party in Israel. Before going to New York, Tal was a director of Maccabi. The head of the Youth and Hehalutz Department, Avraham Katz, is a Liberal leader and former MK.

The infighting in the AZYF has also brought to light the fact that Katz used an AZYF credit card for two years for official business when he travelled in the U.S., but stopped last May when he was told by the WZO Finance Department that this practice was contrary to Israeli foreign currency regulations. The WZO spokesman said that there will be an inquiry into this matter when Katz returns from abroad.

Regarding the allegations concerning Tal, Zborowski said that the AZYF "was pleased to have someone, an educator from Israel, take care of the business of AZYF" during the period when the post of director was vacant. He said that the charges of abusing the privileges of the credit card and car were "ridiculous."

Concerning Tal's alleged political work, Zborowski said that "I would not mind even if one of my own employees would spend some of his time working for Maccabi, Yad Vashem or other Israeli causes - especially when they work overtime, as some of the shlichim do." Zborowski is president of the Schaffer Pen Company of Latin America and has other business interests; he is also chairman of the International Society for Yad Vashem.

He said he could not comment on demands to have Tal recalled, since it is "highly inappropriate to discuss such matters in public."

It has also been alleged that the AZYF paid for a family vacation trip to Disney World for one of its employees; that the publicity for AZYF summer programmes was two months late this year; that current expenses are running "far over budget"; that "costly videos were distributed through AZYF that are 'offensive in content and shoddy in quality'; and that the new head of the AZYF students' department has "no understanding of American youth and university life," and was appointed because he is the brother of the previous incumbent.



U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, right, and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger stand beside a map of the route taken by U.S. bombers from Britain in their air strike against Libya. The route, marked by the black line, avoids France and Spain which both refused to allow the American planes to fly over their territories. (AFP telephoto)

Despite logistics problems, Americans mounted attacks within short period

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The U.S. attack on Libya has proved that other Western countries could also launch attacks on strategic Libyan targets, but it would be wrong to draw any conclusions about the quality of Libya's Soviet weaponry or the effectiveness of its air defence systems, which are the same as Syria's, Ran Pecker, a former Air Force commander, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The Americans proved that within a period of days, not weeks, they were able to launch a complex operation despite the problems resulting from the need to fly long distances to the targets, refuel in the air, solve routing problems, coordinate with aircraft carriers, and attack at night.

The fact that they hit highly sensitive targets, including Gaddafi's headquarters in Tripoli, proves that out of the list of strategic Libyan targets "you can choose any one you want," Pecker said. On paper, Libya has an impressive force: 60 high quality MIG-23 interceptors and 75 medium quality MIG-21s.

It also has 120 ground-to-air missile batteries, from missiles designed to attack low-flying planes to the long range, high-flying SA-5. It also has an arsenal of anti-aircraft guns, some of which are radar guided.

"Maybe the Libyans saw the attack coming on their radar screens and were unable to do anything," Pecker said, "because some air forces don't fly at night."

However, it would be wrong to conclude that the Libyan weapons are poor. "It is reasonable to assume that the Libyan operators did not take full advantage of their systems," Pecker said. Had Soviet or East European personnel been operating those systems, the weapons would probably have functioned far better.

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Aids-free blood supply programme launched

By JOANNA YEHEIL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A far-reaching Health Ministry plan to ensure that the country's blood supply is free of Aids antibodies went into effect yesterday.

Budgeted at \$1 million a year, it calls for setting up seven centres for Aids - acquired immune deficiency syndrome - in hospitals throughout the country, where anyone can be tested for the Aids virus free of charge.

Dr. Moshe Meshiah, head of emergency services at the ministry, said yesterday that from now on no blood donation will be used unless it is tested for Aids antibodies according to ministry instructions. Any hospital that has not made preparations to test for Aids antibodies will have to send its blood donations to the central Magen David Adom blood bank in Jaffa for testing, until it is ready to do the tests itself.

The country's main hospitals are now ready for testing, ministry spokesman Shmuel Elgrably said yesterday. But some smaller ones still need a few days to prepare. No individual testing will be done through the blood banks, he stressed. If someone wants to know his status, he should go to one of the seven Aids centres.

These centres are in the following hospitals: Hadassah, Ein Kerem, Ichilov, Tel Aviv; Rambam, Haifa; and Soroka, Beersheba.

The Health Ministry recommends that persons in what is considered "high risk" groups for Aids should get themselves tested. These are: homosexuals, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs, prostitutes (male and female), and sexual partners of the above.

These people can go to any centre to be tested (not necessarily in their area of residence) and can go either with or without a doctor's referral. To ensure complete confidentiality, the ministry has decided that the person being tested does not have to give his name or identity number. Nevertheless, the results of tests showing Aids antibodies will be sent to the ministry for epidemiological records.

Results will be sent either to a person's doctor, or directly to the patient. All centres must take any person who comes for testing. No patient or blood donation will be turned away, the ministry stressed. In order to allay the fears of health care workers, instructions or precautions needed when dealing with Aids carriers or suspected carriers have been distributed by the ministry to hospitals and laboratories.

To avoid possible use of blood banks as diagnostic centres, the procedures there will be different: after testing, the donations with Aids antibodies will be withdrawn from the blood supply. The names of the donors will be sent to the Health Ministry, which will pass them to local health departments. Local health officials will get in touch with the donor, and give him the name of the centres where he can get proper help.

The centres will have qualified staff - specialists in infectious diseases and psychologists and social workers - to instruct those who are diagnosed as sero-positive.

Although a person may carry antibodies to the Aids virus, this does not mean that he will get Aids. He can live all his life without the symptoms. He may, however, infect others through sexual contact or blood transfusions, but not through casual contact. Thus wives and sexual partners might be a risk.

To date, Israel has 23 cases of Aids including several tourists who were diagnosed here and then returned home. The 16 Israeli patients were homosexuals, hemophiliacs or recipients of blood. Five of the 16 are still alive.

German strike hits ships in Haifa port

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. - Two German flag freighters are now on strike in Haifa port, as part of the general strike in the West German merchant marine.

The m.s. Encol Courier, a small container ship manned by 12 German and two Turkish seamen, was struck by the men on Sunday evening, shortly before they were about to sail, and the eight German seamen on board the Zim Alexandria joined them yesterday before sailing time.

The Courier was due to sail to Europe, and the Alexandria, chartered by Zim, regularly plies the Israel-Alexandria-Limassol route.

Lower naphtha price

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The price of naphtha, a petroleum product used in the petrochemical industries, was cut by 25 per cent at midnight yesterday, the Energy Ministry has announced. Other reductions of between 10 and 15 per cent were announced for various grades of mazut, the heavy residual oil used in industry.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Police call for public alertness

The police yesterday called on the public to be on the lookout for suspicious objects and other signs of possible terror activity.

The police noted that there have been a number of terror attacks and attempted attacks recently. The present school holidays and the large number of people visiting vacation areas, they said, make extra care particularly important.

Anyone seeing a suspicious object, car, or person should not hesitate to contact the police immediately. (Itim)

LOTTO. - In yesterday's national lottery draw, the following numbers were picked: 4, 11, 25, 28, 30, 37, and the additional number, 14.

W. Bank men suspected of kashrut fraud

The owner of a poultry processing plant in the West Bank village of Katanna and one of his employees were arrested yesterday on suspicion of fraudulently marketing chickens from the factory as kosher for Passover.

Police believe that thousands of chickens and chicken parts from the village near Ramallah were marketed in packaging from Israeli plants and bore tags saying they were kosher. Police suspect the chickens were slaughtered by two residents of the village. (Itim)

Alert passerby finds explosives in J'lm

A medium-sized explosive device was dismantled by police in Jerusalem's Ramot Eshkol quarter yesterday.

A plastic bag, containing explosives and a timing device, was discovered under a bench by a passerby, Shalom Malka, who was visiting the capital. After alerting the police, Malka kept people away from the area until sappers arrived and defused the device. (Itim)

Heart transplants could save 100 Israeli lives a year

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

About 100 Israelis with severe cardiac problems could be saved each year if heart transplants were performed here, says Prof. Yosef Borman, head of the department of cardiothoracic surgery at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital.

Borman has just returned from several weeks at Harefield Hospital in London, working alongside Dr. Mashdi Yakoub, an Egyptian cardiologist considered to be Europe's top heart transplant expert. Some 300 heart transplants have been performed so far at the hospital, at the rate of about 100 a year. Borman took part in consultations and watch-

ed Yakoub's team work for two weeks.

Menashe Horeish, an aeronautical engineer at the Haifa Technion, who suffers from severe cardiac insufficiency, is now trying to raise the \$200,000 he needs for a transplant in the U.S. The 24-year-old Iranian immigrant will die, say his doctors, unless he gets his transplant.

Borman says that approximately 1,200 heart transplants will be performed around the world this year, half of them in the U.S.

He explains that the transplant itself is not the hardest part of the procedure; the main problem is matching the donor heart with the recipient and preventing infection

and rejection. But since drugs have been developed in recent years to reduce these problems, transplantation is becoming a standard treatment.

On the third or fourth day after surgery the patient is usually ambulatory, says Borman. After

three weeks of hospitalization, he is usually sent home. This occurs even though many patients were close to death before the operation.

Eighty-two per cent of transplant patients survive the first year, 75 per cent live two years, and 60 per cent live five years or more.

Over 5,000 Israelis die of smoking each year

Jerusalem Post Reporter

More than 5,000 Israelis die every year as a direct result of smoking cigarettes, according to information disclosed this week at a seminar organized by the Israel Medical Association and the Israel Cancer Society.

According to Prof. Shlomo Stern of Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital, smokers suffer three times as many heart attacks as non-smokers.

Non-smokers in places occupied

by smokers have the nicotine level in their blood of a person who smokes five to 10 cigarettes a day. Infants whose parents smoke are hospitalized for lung problems at a rate 28 times greater than babies whose parents abstain.

At top gynecologist, Prof. Yosef Shenkar of Hadassah, reported the connection between smoking and impotence, noting also that semen can be damaged by cigarettes and women's fertility can be reduced.

Rubinstein piano semis

TEL AVIV. - The semi-finals of the Rubinstein piano competition got under way last night at the Mann Auditorium, where three of the contestants played Beethoven concerti with the Israel Philharmonic conducted by Jan Krone. Two contestants - Matthias Fietzberger of Austria and Bernd Glemser of West Germany - both played Beethoven's Emperor Concerto, No. 5, while Hans-Christian Wille, also of West Germany, chose Concerto No. 3 in C minor.

Tonight, Mozart's D Minor concerto, K. 466, will be played by Thomas Duis of West Germany and Karoly Mocsari of Hungary, while Angela Chang of Canada will play Beethoven's fourth concerto in G major. After midnight tonight, the judges will announce the finalists who will compete tomorrow.

Ichilov anniversary will include fund drive

TEL AVIV. - Ichilov Hospital will celebrate its 25th anniversary this year by trying to raise \$600,000 for the construction of a new centre and almost a million dollars more to purchase equipment and expand services, hospital executives said here yesterday.

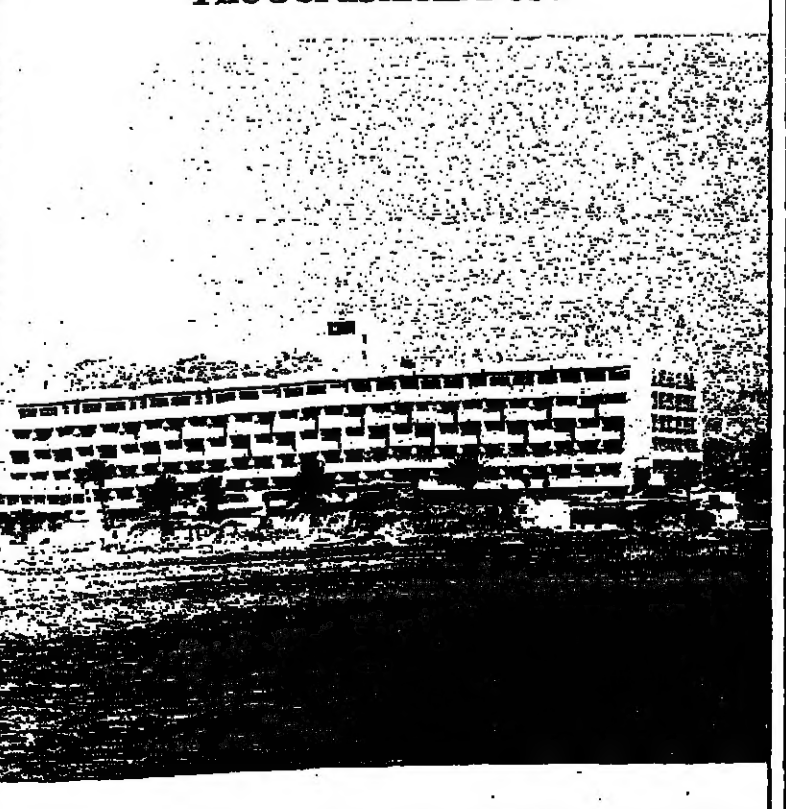
The centre, which will be the new home of Rokach Hospital and the Kirya Maternity Hospital, will be financed in part by government funds, but only on condition that the hospital raise half a shekel for every shekel the government gives.

Prof. Ron Razine, director of Tel Aviv's municipal hospitals, said Ichilov has just opened a new geriatrics department and will lay the cornerstone of a new pediatric centre later this month.

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FOREIGN NEWS

France, Spain refuse airspace to U.S. bombers UK backs Reagan, Europe against

LONDON. — Britain expressed full support for the U.S. action against Libya, and allowed the Americans to fly their bombers from bases in the UK, but France and Spain, which opposed the strike, refused to let the planes through their airspace.

Britain accepted the U.S. contention that there was evidence of Libya's complicity in terror attacks. France said the bombing "renewed the chain of violence" started by terrorism, and Spain said a military attack was not the solution to the problem.

The U.S. air raid was in "self-defence," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told parliament, as she justified her decision to allow U.S. bases in Britain to be used for the operation.

"That action by the U.S. took place against continuous state-sponsored terrorism by Libya," she said.

Eighteen F111 long-range strategic bombers from three of the 11 main U.S. bases in Britain took part in the strike. Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi has called for retaliation against British and U.S. targets.

Thatcher also said she had proof that Gaddafi was giving support to the Irish Republican Army fighting British Forces in Northern Ireland, "and that must be taken into account."

"If one always refuses to take any risks because of the consequences, the terrorist governments will win," she said.

British opposition Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock condemned the raids, saying they would boost support for Libya in the Middle East and provoke rather than prevent terrorist attacks.

"Attacking targets in Libya, in

which civilians, including some British civilians, are involved is not an intelligent way of tackling terrorism," he said on radio.

France confirmed that it had refused use of its air space to the American warplanes.

A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry said that, should Libya carry out its threats against southern Europe, "France believes that the European states...should decide on an appropriate response."

The statement said France "deplores the intolerable escalation of terrorism which has led to an action of reprisals which in itself renews the chain of violence."

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger said that U.S. fighter bombers had to travel around French and Spanish air space to reach Libya.

The foreign minister, Innocencio Arias, told Spanish national radio that Spain had not allowed U.S. fighter bombers en route to Tripoli from England to pass through its air space because it rejected military action as a solution to the conflict between the U.S. and Libya.

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez joined Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter in criticizing the U.S.

Schluter appeared with Gonzalez at a joint news conference originally scheduled to coincide with the end of his official visit to Spain that began Monday.

But the session focused on the U.S. air attack.

"I disagree with the method they employed. And I've informed the American government of this," Gonzalez said. "I don't think this method will bring about the end of terrorism as the U.S. desires."

Schluter appeared with Gonzalez at

United States found it needed to enter into such heavy military activity as we saw last night.

"We should increase our political pressure on terrorists and intensify dramatically our contacts with leaders in the Middle East and in the Mediterranean region to do our utmost to prevent this pressing crisis from escalating."

Japan expressed "grave concern" over the raids and said that its embassy in Tripoli had been damaged. Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said the U.S. "had its reasons," but hoped the situation would not escalate further.

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi strongly condemned the raids, saying they could cause "an explosion of fanaticism and extremism." In a relatively restrained statement Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias expressed "intense worry," and said "the Greek government feels bound to express its disapproval."

Greece also complained that its allies had kept it in the dark about what was going on.

Sweden condemned the raid as "serious and most dangerous."

Foreign Minister Sten Andersson said, "We cannot support terrorism; but this problem has to be solved with policing measures or political action."

Apart from Britain, the only support in Western Europe came from West Germany, and even Bonn did not actually approve the raid. Chancellor Helmut Kohl said that Gaddafi had "challenged the international community by sponsoring terrorist acts" and must expect a firm response from the U.S. "Those who preach and practise violence like Gaddafi must consider that those threatened will protect themselves."

(Reuters, AP, AFP)

SPORTS

3rd Div. team through to quarter-finals

Post Sports Staff

Yesterday the impossible happened in a State Cup replayed soccer tie. An unknown third league team, Maccabi Hadera, vanquished Hapoel Petah Tikva, a National League team lying a comfortable 9th in the league. What is more, to rub salt in the losers' wounds, the 1-0 victory was attained in Petah Tikva.

It is true that the under-rated outsiders got a certain amount of help from the hapless losers — Zion Yosef scored an own goal in the 7th minute. From then on Maccabi Hadera hung in there grimly, obviously determined not to have a repetition of the previous week, which ended in a 2-2 draw after 120 minutes. So Maccabi Hadera got through to the quarter-finals of the Cup.

Two other home teams lost: Shimshon went to Jaffa, and they brought to an end Maccabi Jaffa's run of 13 games without defeat.

The game was a curious one. Avi Malca scored from the penalty spot in the 52nd minute, only to see David Amiga equalise, also from a penalty, three minutes later. But Ovannim clinched Shimshon's 2-1 victory with a great goal in the 63rd minute.

The other home team to lose was Maccabi Netanya, defeated 1-0 by Hapoel Beersheba through a penalty scored five minutes from tie. Thus three penalties and an own goal accounted for four of the five goals scored.

Now the three successful teams join Maccabi Haifa, Betar Jerusalem, Hapoel Kfar Sava and Maccabi Petah Tikva in the quarters.

Israel Triathlon attracting many foreign athletes

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Five West German athletes have confirmed their entry in the Jezre'el Valley Triathlon on April 26. The triathlon will mark Israel's first international event in the three-discipline sport of swimming, cycling and running, following a local meet at Kibbutz Hornim last summer, which attracted 100 participants. Several Finnish members of Unifil will also boost the foreign entry, race director Uzi Ron of Kibbutz Ein Dor told me yesterday.

The coming meet, sponsored by the Jezre'el Valley regional council, will be divided into long and short courses. The former comprises a 1,000m. swim at Sachne, followed by a 60km. cycle race and a 15km. run, finishing at Givat Ha'moreh near Afula after taking a route through the Jezre'el Valley. The shorter distance starts with a 500m. swim at Givat Ha'moreh, then a 20km. peddle and 8km. run. Some 120 athletes are anticipated for the event, two-thirds of them in the short course, Ron reported.

The Germans — who include one woman — are members of the Gerolstein Triathlon Club, which has already held two winter training camps on the shores of the Kinneret at Tiberias.

Further details can be obtained from Uzi Ron at Ein Dor (tel: 067-67661, ext. 2127, between 5 and 7 p.m.) The registration fee is NIS15.

Kiwis routed

SHARJAH (Reuters). — Pakistan beat New Zealand by 10 wickets yesterday to reach the final of the 11,000 Australasia Cup Cricket Tournament.

Pakistan skipper Imran Khan put New Zealand in to bat, and then dismissed Martin Snodden in the first over. Young speedster Wasim Akram took three wickets, and the Kiwis were 18 for 4. Qadir, the leg-spin wizard, came on to take 4 wickets for 9 in 10 overs, including 3 wickets in one over. Pakistan knocked off the runs with ease. They now play India in the final.

Royal rider

CHELTHAM (AP). — Princess Anne hopes to ride a horse owned by her mother, Queen Elizabeth, in tomorrow's flat race at Cheltenham. Well-Wisher, which the Princess leases from the Queen, is among a record 103 entries for the Amateur Riders Association Race. Princess Anne has ridden about a half-dozen races at England's flat courses but has yet to come home a winner.

Soviets hit 'bloody crime,' China also raps terror

Soviet, East Bloc and Third World reaction to the U.S. strike against Libya was predictably hostile; but China, and other Asian nations balanced their condemnation with an affirmation of their opposition to terrorism.

The Soviet news agency Tass swiftly condemned the U.S. air strikes as "a new bloody crime" aimed at intimidating the Libyan people.

"American imperialism has perpetrated a new bloody crime," it said. The U.S. had unleashed "The language of bombs, flames and death, the very same language that Washington used when dealing with Vietnam as it scorched its people and land with napalm."

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson expressed their concern. Carlsson, who arrived for the first visit by a Swedish leader here for 10 years, said he and Gorbachev had reacted similarly to reports of the U.S. action.

"He (Gorbachev) expressed strong concern over the situation," Carlsson told reporters at the Swedish embassy after his talks.

Carlsson said both leaders pledged to fight terrorism.

The Soviet charge d'affaires in

Washington was notified of the attack while it was going on, Secretary of State George Shultz said.

The U.S. told the Soviet Union the operation was directed against Libya and not at Soviet interests, he said.

Sources close to the Pentagon said on Monday that the Soviet Union had withdrawn four warships from waters near Libya in recent days.

China condemned "such an act of attacking the territory of another state and encroaching upon its sovereignty in violation of the norms governing international relations."

It called on the U.S. not to make any further attacks on Libya and appealed to both sides to cease hostilities and avoid a further deterioration of the situation. The ministry said China condemned all forms of terrorism and opposed its use in a political struggle. It did not give specific examples nor name Libya in this context.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, leader of the non-aligned movement, condemned the raids on Libya and promised the movement's backing for Libya. In a sharply-worded statement Gandhi called on America and its allies to exercise utmost restraint in dealing with Libya. (Reuters)

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Genet, controversial French author, dead at 75

PARIS (AP). — Jean Genet, whose life and works made him one of the most controversial French writers of the 20th century, died yesterday. He was 75. His publishing house Gallimard said he died of cancer of the throat at the Paris Hotel, where he had lived for several years.

Genet was a dramatist, poet, novelist and convicted criminal. He created a seedy, brutal world, peopled with homosexuals, convicts, pimps and thieves. He was himself a homosexual and admitted prostitute.

French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre devoted a mammoth tome to Genet's work, his poetic genius and moral complexity, called *Saint-Genet*.

Soviet FM suggest summit to Chinese

PEKING (AP). — Chinese envoy Qian Qichen returned home yesterday from talks aimed at normalizing relations with the Soviet Union.

The official Soviet news agency, Tass, reported that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, at a Monday meeting with Qian, suggested the idea of a summit meeting.

"I cannot say what the results were, but it was useful," Qian said.

Security tightened in Kabul after bombs found

ISLAMABAD (Reuters). — Afghan authorities tightened security in Kabul dramatically after a wave of bombings hit the capital and about 20 bombs were found in a Soviet housing complex, western diplomats said yesterday.

Soldiers and secret police were now stationed at all major roads to search private cars and unload and check buses for Moslem rebels carrying explosives, they said.

The stepped-up security, which marked a sudden end to the winter lull, when fewer Moslem rebels prowled through the city of two million people, also appeared linked to several public events being staged by the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

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YOUNES RESTAURANT

On travelling to the Galilee on the Nazareth-Tiberias Road (Route 77) I stopped at Younes Restaurant at the gas station west of the Golani Junction. The same owner that made Younes of Jaffa a must for lovers of Oriental Food, has made this a stopping point for all Israelis and tourist guides. The 35 assorted salad dishes, delicious lamb chops, kabab, grilled fish and complete (Arab) specialties that were served transformed a long drive into a pleasant tour.

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Spiritual guide

Tom Tugend meets Jonathan Man (right), a man who has singular success in reaching out to people

JONATHAN Omer-Man has held many different jobs in England, where he was born, and Israel, where he lived. His present occupation within the Jewish community, however, is so novel that he has to look to other faiths for an approximate description. His work, he says, is akin to a "personal ministry" and he takes as his model the French worker-priest of the Sixties, who lived both inside and outside the religious establishment.

His official title, admittedly self-created, is Director of Religious Outreach for the Los Angeles Hillel Council, a position which, again in his words, involves outreach to those segments of the adult Jewish population of Los Angeles who feel that their religious needs are not being met by the extant institutions, offering personal counselling and establishing groups for study, discussion and worship. The work is of personal ministry to, and advocacy for, religiously alienated Jews.

His clients, says Omer-Man, "are serious people, often quite sophisticated and creative, who are spiritually dissatisfied and are willing to make a strong commitment in effort and time to fill the void. They are groping for depth in place of the shallowness they claim to have encountered elsewhere."

The alienation of such serious seekers represents a grievous loss to the quality of Jewish community life, he says. Equally significant, they serve as a kind of seismograph, recording the emotional vibrations of a large part of mainstream American Jewry.

Part of the responsibility for reclaiming those Omer-Man describes as "religiously underprivileged Jews" lies with the established institutions. "We, in the Jewish community, must learn to listen to those who feel misunderstood and rejected," he admonishes. "Too often we think we know the answers before we've heard the questions. We have to listen first."

Most of the road back, though, must be travelled by the alienated themselves. "First, they must learn that what they are seeking does indeed exist within our Jewish tradition," says Omer-Man. "My first advice to them is to take a few risks—join a learners' minyan, try a different temple, keep an open mind, gain new insights."

His study and discussion groups generally come together on a rotating basis at the homes of the participants.

He fits his teaching methods to the case at hand and one of his few generalizations is that he is part of an on-going process of creating a "sophisticated Judaism." To oversimplify a fairly complex concept, such Judaism seeks to answer the

eternal question of "Who am I?" in a religious as well as psychological sense to define the individual's place both as a unique person and as part of the community.

Even a dedicated man can contact only so many people, but Omer-Man expands his outreach and multiplies his influence both through his writings and by serving as a counsellor to counsellors and as a teacher to teachers.

He meets often with Hillel and other young rabbis, and they are among his strongest supporters and admirers.

"Jonathan's work is nothing short of incredible," testifies Laura Geller, the resident Hillel rabbi at the "He has sensitized me and other rabbis to the spiritual dimension of our work, which just wasn't part of our seminary training. He is very learned, he is wise and he is gentle. I would describe him as a *morah derech*, a true spiritual guide."

WHILE Omer-Man's ideas and methods are becoming more widely diffused, he is guarded about his personal life, and it took two hours

of interviewing before he volunteered a few autobiographical details. He is 51 years old, husky, with a strong, bearded face, slightly above average height, who moves slowly and with impatient strength on two crutches.

The crutches are "the visible signs of Jonathan's own pain and suffering," observes Rabbi Richard Levy, executive director of the Los Angeles Hillel Council, and may help explain his remarkable empathy toward other people's desperation and pain.

Born in the English seaside city of Portsmouth, Omer-Man says that his early religious experience as a member of an Orthodox Jewish family left him with little spiritual nourishment. At age 21, he went to Israel and joined Kibbutz Amiad in Upper Galilee, where some 18 months later he contracted polio. He remained at Amiad for another six years, but eventually decided that the lifestyle was not for him.

He moved to Jerusalem and worked on scientific translations for the Keter publishing company. At this time he went through a strong anti-religious phase.

"It was the kind of 'no' that leads to a 'yes,'" he now recalls, and the "yes" pointed him gradually to his present outlook and work. His

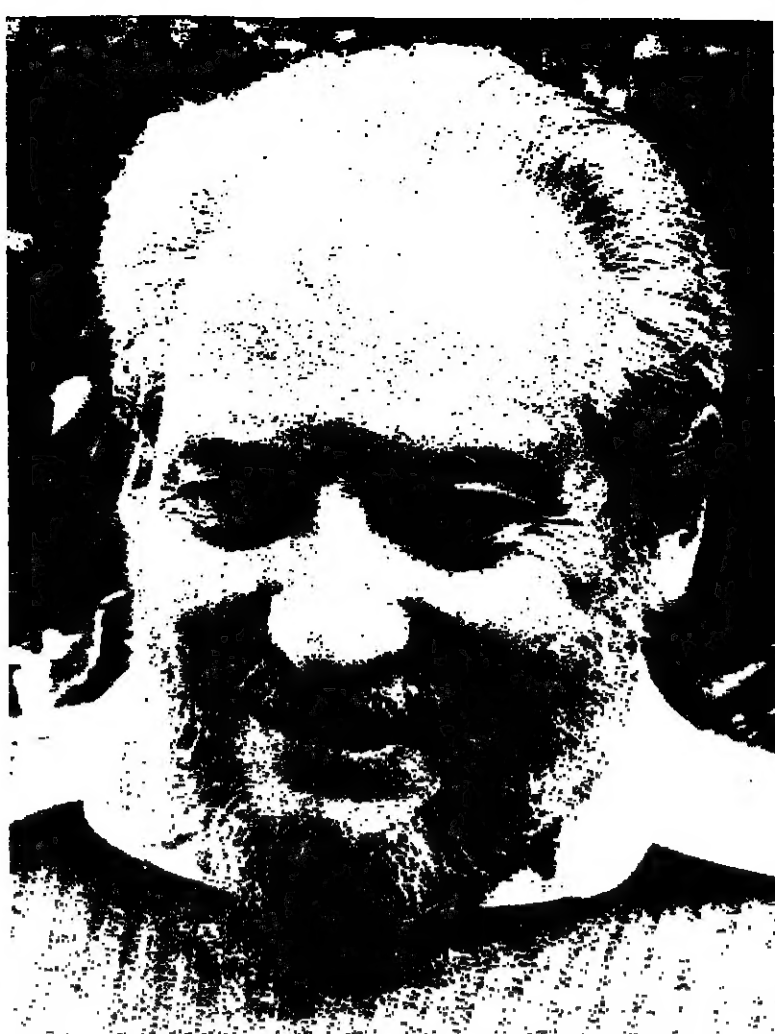
first attempts to evolve and express his ideas led him to the founding of a quarterly magazine which he called *Shefa* (Abundance).

The magazine, written in English, was intended as a bridge between the spiritual traditions of Judaism and the unfulfilled seekers in the Diaspora, and to raise its modest circulation. Omer-Man came to the United States and hit the lecture circuit. One member of his audience, during a Los Angeles stopover, was Rabbi Levy of the Hillel Council, who was sufficiently impressed to offer him his present position.

Having lived on three continents, Omer-Man has had sufficient opportunity to contrast the "Jewishness" of Israeli and Diaspora Jews and to ponder the question of Jewish survival. He claims no pat formula for survival, but is struck by the fact that as one centre of Jewish life declines, another rises to take its place.

He believes that we are now at yet another turning point in the Jewish experience. What form the new revival will take, and whether it will be nurtured in Israel or America, is uncertain. He is quite sure, though, that it will not come through the established institutions, but rather will spring from the grass roots.

The four main groups that will serve as the catalysts of the revival, he believes, are women, who will bring a special creativity to the renewal; Jews who have strayed to Eastern religions and come back with a higher sense of spiritual awareness; converts to Judaism; and the children of Holocaust survivors.



A WRONG RIGHTED

David Geffen looks at the Leo Frank case, one of 'the most blatant anti-Jewish incidents in U.S. history.' It closed last month after 73 years.

MARCH 11 WAS a historic day for the Jews of Atlanta, indeed of the entire state of Georgia. On that day, a statement was issued that people had waited 73 years to hear: "The State Board of Pardons and Poles, in compliance with its Constitutional and statutory authority, hereby grants to Leo M. Frank a pardon."

In 1913, in an atmosphere of hatred fanned by the newspapers and populist leader Tom Watson, Leo Frank was convicted of the murder of a teenage Christian girl fellow worker at the Atlanta factory where he was a superintendent. Two years later, he was lynched. The lynching released a torrent of hatred against Atlanta Jewry, resulting in the blood libel directed against Jews in other countries.

Leo Frank moved to Atlanta from Brooklyn in 1910, married the daughter of the well-known Selig family, and became the superintendent of the National Pencil Factory. On April 27, 1913 the lifeless body of 13-year-old Mary Phagan was found in the factory basement.

The murder of this southern child at a factory run by a Yankee Jew raised the ire of the community, and Frank was accused of the crime. Most unusual for that era Leo Frank was convicted on the basis of testimony by Jim Conley, the factory's black janitor.

For the next two years, appeals on all levels were filed and were turned down. When that avenue proved fruitless, Governor John Slaton commuted Frank's sentence to life imprisonment, thereby committing political suicide. The prisoner was moved to a state penitentiary in July 1915 and within a few days his throat was slashed by a fellow prisoner. Frank survived that attempt on his life. But several weeks later he was dragged from the prison by masked vigilantes and lynched in Marietta, Georgia, near Mary Phagan's home. Four years ago, the late Alonzo

Mann, then 83, who was a 14-year-old office boy at the factory when the murder was committed, came forward and described what he claimed really occurred. On Saturday, April 26 1913, he saw Conley carrying the limp body of the girl. He was told by the janitor, "If you ever mention this, I'll kill you."

Mann raced home and told his mother what he had seen. She advised him to keep silent.

Although called as a witness to the trial, he was only briefly questioned since he offered no information.

After living with this for close to seven decades, he broke the story to newspapermen from Nashville, Tennessee. They put him through lie-detector tests before finally releasing the scoop. "At least I am able to get this off my heart," Mann said. "When my time comes, I hope God will understand me better for having told it. That's what matters most."

This new evidence, buttressed by additional depositions, was submitted in 1983 with a petition asking the Georgia State Pardons and Poles Board to declare Frank innocent in full and to grant a posthumous pardon.

In December 1983 the pardon was denied on the basis that there was "no conclusive evidence proving beyond any doubt Frank was innocent." The Atlanta Jewish Federation, the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, the American Jewish Committee and others were not deterred. A new petition was submitted and the recent decision was the result.

The board emphasized that it was granting the pardon "without attempting to address the question of guilt or innocence and in recognition of the state's failure to protect the person of Leo M. Frank and thereby preserve his opportunity for continued legal appeal of his conviction, and in recognition of the state's failure to bring his killers to justice."



Leo Frank on the witness stand.

(Courtesy of the Atlanta Constitution, August 19, 1913)

WHILE MOST of the community leaders were satisfied, Alan Ullman, president of the Leo Frank B'nai B'rith lodge in Atlanta, wrote a letter to the editor of the *Atlanta Journal* afternoon paper. He wrote:

"The pardon leads us to ask 'How can Leo Frank be pardoned and not declared innocent?' While we understand the realities of political compromise, we cannot accept the pardon as a just end to this tragic case. While others may be prepared to 'close the book' on the Leo Frank incident, we are not. While the chance for a complete and total exoneration is remote given the political realities, we will continue to work towards this goal."

Certain historians have labelled the Frank case the Dreyfus case of America; yet others have seen it more in tradition of the blood libel. In the 1920s, the spectre of the blood libel specifically raised its

head in the U.S. at Massena N.Y. On September 22, 1928, two days before Yom Kippur, a four-year-old Christian child disappeared. A New York State trooper, acting on the authority of the mayor, interrogated the local rabbi and Jewish residents about the Jewish custom of offering human sacrifices.

During the interrogation at the police station, a mob surrounded the building and had to be dispersed. The following day the girl was found alive and well in the woods where she got lost.

Protests by Jewish and non-Jewish organizations persuaded the governor, Al Smith, to order an investigation. Massena's mayor and the state trooper were censured for their conduct.

This Massena incident and the Frank case are two of the most blatant anti-Jewish incidents in American history.

Spurt in Pacs backing Israel

WASHINGTON (JTA). — While a debate continues in the American Jewish community whether it is wise to be perceived as a single-issue community, political action committees (PACs) formed to ensure continued support for Israel are expanding rapidly.

A recent report by Common Cause, the citizens' advocacy group, asserts that "the pro-Israel PACs' contributions may well have been the fastest growing of all interest groups during the past five years," increasing their contributions between the 1980 and 1984 elections by nine times as compared to a doubling by all PACs during the same period. Since 1981, 65 pro-Israel PACs have contributed \$6,120,713 to candidates for the Senate and the House of Representatives.

In 1985, the pro-Israel PACs gave Congressional candidates \$853,320, according to Common Cause. The top recipient was Sen. Robert Kasten (R. Wisc.), chairman of the Senate appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, who received \$107,600 in 1985. He was followed by Sen. Arlen Specter (R. Pa.), a subcommittee member, \$70,375; and Sen. Alan Cranston (D. Cal.), a member of the Senate foreign relations committee.

\$57,250. All three face tough re-election campaigns this year.

The report shows that five other senators, who are either on the foreign operations subcommittee or are seeking re-election received large contributions last year.

They are: Daniel Inouye (D. Hawaii) \$29,050; Christopher Dodd (D. Conn.) \$28,250; Alfonse D'Amato (R. N.Y.) \$28,250; Frank Murkowski (R. Alaska) \$8,000; and Patrick Leahy (D. Vt.) \$3,500.

Common Cause also points to contributions in 1985 to members of the House foreign affairs committee. They are: Rep. Lawrence Smith (D. Fla.) \$15,000; Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.) \$11,800; John McCain (R. Ariz.) \$11,000; Sam Gejdensen (D. Conn.) \$9,250; Harry Reid (D. Nev.) \$6,000; and Mark Siljander (R. Mich.) \$5,000.

PAC-Supported Lawmakers Don't Always Win.

THOSE WHO received contributions from pro-Israel PACs do not always win. Of the 10 candidates receiving the most funds from 1981 through 1984, four were defeated, including the second highest recipient, James Hunt, who was defeated by Sen. Jesse Helms (R. N.C.) in 1984.

In the House, eight of the top recipients for the same period are still in Congress. But the top recipient, Rep. Clarence Long (D. Md.), who was chairman of the House appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, was defeated in 1984 by his Republican opponent, Helen Bentley.

Common Cause also found that 18 pro-Israel PACs contributed more than \$100,000 for the five-year period through 1985. Leading them all was the Washington-based (D. Cal.) national PAC with \$1,352,000.

Common Cause president Fred

Wertheimer, in commenting on his organization's report, said it "provides a classic case study of the PAC problem in our political system — the proliferation of PACs, the increase of PAC dollars, the concentration of interest group money in key Congressional committees, and the single-minded focus of PAC-giving."

Richard Altman, head of the National PAC, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Common Cause report made him "proud" that so many supporters of Israel were willing to respond in the same way their fellow Americans supported issues important to them.

Altman noted that NatPAC was created not to support PACs but to stand by those who reflected the belief that the survival of Israel is important to the U.S.

There are many in the Jewish community who believe, along with Common Cause, that PACs pose a danger to the political system.

Critics of pro-Israel PACs point to the part they played in the defeat of Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) in 1984 and Rep. Paul Findley (R. Ill.) in 1982. But they fail to mention that these two candidates received large contributions from oil companies, companies that do business in the Arab countries and others who want the U.S. commitment to Israel lessened.

Some Jews argue that the community should not be viewed as single-issue oriented and as evidence of this point to the formation of the Illinois Multi-Issue PAC. This is all to the good, but it is still important to focus attention on the American Jewish commitment to Israel. After all, it is pointed out, Jews who contribute to pro-Israel PACs can still contribute to other PACs that support the many other issues with which American Jews are concerned. (JTA)

Holocaust exhibition opens in NY museum

ALBANY, NY (JTA). — A major permanent exhibit has opened in the New York State Museum here, telling the story of the Holocaust through the experience of the only Jews rescued by the U.S. government and brought to that country during World War II.

The exhibit was created by the New York State Education Department with a \$190,000 grant sponsored by New York State Senate Minority Leader Manfred Ohrenstein, and \$40,000 in private donations through the Greater Albany Jewish Federation.

The exhibit, entitled *Bitter Hope: From Holocaust to Haven*, contrasts the horrors of the Final Solution with the story of 982 refugees from the Nazis who were brought to Fort Ontario in Oswego, N.Y., in August 1944.

This little-known episode in Holocaust and New York State history was a token humanitarian effort by the U.S. government. By special order of president Franklin Roosevelt, 874 Jewish and 118 Christian refugees from all over Europe sailed from Italy to the U.S. on the liberty ship *Henry Gibbons*.

SOME 30 former refugees from the Oswego camp were present at the opening, coming from as far as Indiana and California. Before they were chosen to come to the U.S. in 1944, they were required to sign a release stating they would return to their countries of origin at the end of the war.

But after 18 months of internment, a special order by president Harry Truman on December 22, 1945 gave the Oswego refugees permission to remain. Because they had arrived as "guests of the president" and not as legal immigrants, they were required to cross the Rainbow Bridge into Canada at Niagara Falls and re-enter the U.S. as legal residents.

Ruth Graber, who accompanied the refugees from Europe to Oswego in her capacity as special assistant to then secretary of the interior Harold Ickles, recounted her experience to the audience. The refugees' stories are detailed in her book, *Haven: The Unknown Story of 1000 World War II Refugees*. (JTA)

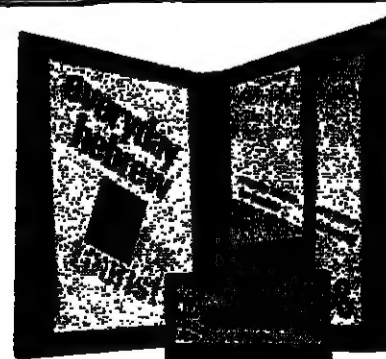
The Jewish World Page is edited by Moshe Kohn.



The Knesset Notice to the Public

Following is the Knesset tours schedule during the Passover recess:

Thursday, April 17, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sunday, April 20, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sunday, May 4, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
Thursday, May 8, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
Sunday, May 11, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 14, 1986 — Independence Day, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
Thursday, May 15, 1986 — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.



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AVI TEMKIN

Effect of government on industry

Israeli industry is mostly privately owned. Private industry accounts for over half of the total output and employs about two-thirds of the manufacturing workforce. If one adds to this the Histadrut-owned factories, which from the legal point of view are privately owned, one gets an industrial economy of which some three-quarters is in private hands.

But over the years this private industry has been shaped by the constant intervention of the government. This intervention has been multifaceted. The government sets prices, grants subsidies, imposes taxes, decides on tax exemption and investment grants and sets wage guidelines.

A recently published study by Arle Bregman, an economist in the Bank of Israel research department, highlights the results of this policy. It shows that it was the small firms, those with little chance of receiving government support and grants, that used their equipment most efficiently.

Moreover, the report shows that the average ratio of subsidies to own industrial capital rose from 7.3 per cent in 1965 to 28 per cent in the years 1972 to 1979. The average ratio of government grants to own investments rose to some 35 per cent in the last years.

As a result, industrial firms tended to grow. Those enjoying government support tended to over-invest and to under-use their equipment. Moreover, firms were encouraged to decrease their own equity. This had the result that they frequently became dependent on external credits when government financing was not available. Thus the share of financing costs rose from 28 per cent of operation profits in 1965-1968 to 47 per cent in 1979-1982. The Bregman study also shows that Israeli entrepreneurs avoid taking risks. They would invest in sectors with lower profitability, if they knew there was strong government commitment not to let the industry go under.

These factors go a long way to explain why the development of industry in the last ten years was not accompanied by an increase in productivity, as was the case in the late 'sixties and early 'seventies. Nevertheless, it must be pointed out that unit labour costs were 7.7 per cent lower in 1984 than in 1965. Wages did not catch up with productivity in the two decades.

Government intervention had other results as well. The report finds that the government was successful in its efforts to bring industry to development areas. By 1981, about one-third of the industrial output was in developing areas, compared to only one-fifth in 1965.

The government also succeeded in changing the nature of Israeli industry, the Bregman report shows. In 1965 industry here trailed behind most developed countries in research and development. Twenty years later this had changed. Israeli industry invested 2.3 per cent of its output value in R & D. This reflects both the development of the defence-related industries and the effectiveness of government grants.

Nasser completes purchase of First International

Post Finance Reporter

Jack Nasser, the New York textile manufacturer who won the auction for control of the First International Bank, yesterday completed the transaction by paying the \$21m. purchase price and receiving shares giving him a 51 per cent stake in the bank's parent company.

Nasser stated that his advisers had checked the bank and were impressed by its efficient management and qualified staff. Therefore, said Nasser, he did not intend to change the current business strategy of the bank or its management methods. He would, however, work toward widening its international base and circle of customers abroad—as predicted in *The Jerusalem Post* at the time of his successful bid.

FOLLOWING three years of research, Kibbutz Ginegar is now producing a plastic covering for field plants which lasts two years, instead of the usual one year. The covering is more expensive than the conventional type, but cost, spread over two years, is said to be less.

Mizrahi had large gain in profits

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Bank Mizrahi, Israel's fourth biggest commercial banking group, yesterday announced a sharp rise in both operating and net after-tax profits for 1985.

After adjustments to inflation, the after-tax profit figure was NIS 5.9 million (\$3.9m.), fully 185 per cent up on the equivalent results in 1984. Furthermore—and the feature of the financial statement most stressed by the bank's management—the net profit was not, as in 1984, the result of selling real estate and other assets to cover up an operating loss, but was itself the reflection of a sharp swing back to profitability.

Pre-tax operating profits totalled NIS 34.3m., compared with a mere NIS 1.2m. in the restated version of the 1984 results. Three quarters of this total went to the Treasury in taxes. The remaining NIS 8.5m. was not supported by any net profits in affiliated companies and was also reduced by minority shareholder

stakes in Mizrahi's Overseas Holding Company—yet the net figure remained strongly positive at NIS 5.9m.

The key components of this much-improved profit performance were the high profit margins of the banking system in the course of 1985 and the cumulative effects of cost-cutting measures since the crisis of October 1983.

In this connection, Mizrahi managing-director Aharon Meir told a press conference held yesterday to mark the publication of the 1985 results, that the Mizrahi group cut its workforce by 7.5 per cent during 1985, or 157 out of 2,098 persons. It also became the first bank to eliminate a large and profitable branch by merging its branch in the "passage" off Allenby Street with its Tel Aviv main branch.

Mizrahi's balance sheet dropped 9 per cent, to stand at NIS 7.7 billion (\$5.1b.) as of December 31, 1985. This drop, as with all the banks, stems from the weight of the dollar and dollar-linked component of the

balance sheet in a year when the rate of devaluation against the dollar was only 135 per cent, compared to inflation of 185 per cent. With the figures all adjusted for inflation, the erosion of dollar assets reduces their value in constant shekel terms.

This effect was particularly severe on Mizrahi's overseas network, primarily in the U.S. Its investments there had to be written down in line with their changing adjusted-shekel value. This resulted in a reduction in the group's total capital means, despite the net profit recorded.

Total capital assets stood at NIS 285m. (\$190m.) at the end of 1985, compared to a year-earlier figure of NIS 288m. (\$192m.).

The Mizrahi results, again in line with other banks that have reported so far for 1985, illustrate the impact of the economic recession of the business sector in the vastly increased write-offs for bad debts made last year. Mizrahi set aside some NIS 39m. (\$26.3m.), over three times the amount provided for that purpose in 1984.

PENTAGON

panied the bombers, the officials said.

The navy, beyond sending up 15 A-7 and A-6 attack jets from the carriers Coral Sea and America, also scrambled dozens of F-14 and F-4E fighters, E-2C Hawkeye radar planes and tankers and electronic-jamming aircraft.

The U.S. Defence Department confirmed that 16 of the 18 F-111s that took part in the mission returned to their home base at Lakehurst, England. One made an emergency landing at the U.S.-Spanish naval base at the southern port of Rota, after reporting mechanical trouble, and the other was "unaccounted for."

Defence Department spokesman Robert Sims dismissed claims by the Libyan news agency, Jana, that the American attacks were continuing and that "at least 20" U.S. planes had been shot down.

President Ronald Reagan said yesterday to "friends and allies in Europe" who cooperated in yesterday's mission: "I would only say, you have the permanent gratitude of the American people. Europeans who remember history understand better than most that there is no security, no safety in the appeasement of evil. It must be the core of Western policy that there be no sanctuary for terror. And to sustain such a policy, free men and free nations must unite and work together."

SUPPORT HERE

America zeroed in on a target for retaliation—Muammar Gaddafi's Libya. The decision-making process and operational preparations preceding yesterday's strike exposed the difficulties of a superpower trying to slap back at a wily and elusive attacker.

Libya was indeed a justified and convenient target. The Americans obtained recordings and other evidence of instructions sent by Tripoli to its East Berlin embassy ordering the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque frequented by American soldiers. Evidence from other terror attacks has also formed a clear trail to Libya.

Libya is a small country with a limited capacity for major retaliatory action against the U.S. Gaddafi has no steadfast allies; and states like Syria and Iran, which have occasionally cooperated with him, are not expected to rush to his defense.

Anticipating the response of the Soviet Union was a weightier issue for the American planners, however. They concluded that the Soviets would not spring to action, since Gaddafi has been an uncontrollable ally, whose actions are very difficult to predict.

The assumption underlying this approach of pinning the blame on states which harbour or encourage terror is that military pressure on such targets can produce results. This has indeed been borne out by Israel's strikes against Syria, Jordan and Tunisia, aimed at forcing these states to restrain the terror groups operating from their territory.

Even if Gaddafi does not stop supporting Arab, Palestinian and European terror groups, he will have to think twice now before he blesses their actions. Even if the American strike only forces Libyan-backed terror to lower its profile and act with greater restraint, this in itself can be considered an achievement.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:			
General Share Index	113.77	-0.45%	
Non-Bank Index	130.70	-0.89%	
Arrangement	108.28	-0.12%	
Insurance	151.83	-3.24%	
Commerce, Services	143.01	+0.74%	
Real Estate	158.94	-1.68%	
Industries	122.40	-0.31%	
Textiles	146.83	+0.14%	
Metals	133.94	-0.79%	
Electronics	102.98	-0.25%	
Chemicals	124.77	+0.21%	
Industrial Invest.	116.11	-2.36%	
Investment Cos.	123.79	-1.50%	
General Bond Index	103.51	-0.25%	
Index-linked Bonds	103.88	-0.25%	
Fully-linked	105.88	-0.22%	
Partially-linked	102.70	-0.27%	
Dollar-linked Bonds	100.05	-0.53%	
Short-term 0-2 yrs	102.71	-0.16%	
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	103.18	-0.36%	
Long-term 5+ yrs	103.51	-0.31%	

Turnovers:			
Shares—total	NIS 9,524,300		
Arrangement	NIS 2,196,300		
Non-bank	NIS 7,328,000		
Bonds—total	NIS 4,480,700		
Index-linked	NIS 2,363,400		
Dollar-linked	NIS 2,127,300		
Treasury Bills	NIS 12,163,900		
Share Movements:			
Advances	114 (334)		
of which 5%+	39 (198)		
"buyers only"	2 (47)		
Declines	182 (13)		
of which 5%+	46 (1)		
"sellers only"	10 (8)		
Unchanged	85 (45)		
Trading Halt	48 (47)		
Bond Market Trends:			
Inc'd-linked	3% Fully-linked	Falls to 1%	

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%
General Share Index	113.77		-0.45%
Non-Bank Index	130.70		-0.89%
Arrangement	108.28		-0.12%
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Long-term 5+ yrs	103.51		-0.31%

Trade & Services			
Meir Exr	4218	60	-5.0
Supersol 2	4430	974	-
Dolek r	5250	4063	-
Lighterage	5300	106	-
Cold Storage	1080	219	-9.9
Dan Hotels	4148	285	-0.1
Yarden Hotel	3340	742	+4.9
Hilon 1	12475	4	-0.2
Taan 1	1800	795	-7.7
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Azorm	4840	1003	-2.4
Elion	405	539	-8.0
Africa Int. 0.1	38040	138	-0.8
Daniner	188	1	-
Prop. & Bldg.	2680	1341	-0.9
Bayeside 0.1	3980	37	-8.1
ILDC r	44000	329	+15.0
Rasoco r	5705	319	-5.1
Mahadim	5770	478	-5.1
Hadarim	1106	4780	-4.3
Industrials			
Dubek b	3430	773	+0.9
Pr-Zel 1	2490	871	-4.2
Sunfrost	6580	563	-
Elita	14000	151	-
Adgar	765	1076	-1.9
Argaman r	10018	-	-5.0
Delta G 1	4380	138	-
Maquette 1	15930	83	+0.6
Eagle 1	10789	194	+10.0
Polget 0.1	8800	464	+1.6
Schoellerns	13300	119	-2.1
Rogolin	2835	1474	+0.4
Urdan 0.1 r	8830	30	+0.2
la. Can. Co. 1	975	5407	-5.1
Zion Cables	2250	681	-4.3
Packer Steel	5770	889	+1.2
Elbit 3 r	410500	25	+1.4

Elron			
Art	386000	6	-4.0
Clal Electronics	33195	321	-
Spectronix 1	1817	527	-3.7
T.A.T. 1	3080	314	-7.2
Akzerstein 1	1548	472	-4.3
Alliance	17600	52	-
Alifan	1215	243	-6.3
Dextar	3250	-	-1.5
Fertilisers	4800	115	+11.4
Hafa Chem.	886	4205	-0.2
Teva	57000	115	-
Dead Sea r	14960	1133	+0.3
Petrochem.	484	11526	-
Neca Chem.	3150	17	-8.2
Frutaron	14345	-	-5.0
Mizrahi Paper	179500	41	+0.3
Central Trade	6300	337	-4.5
Koor p	5150000	1	+1.0
Clal Inds.	1313	9418	-1.1
Investment Companies			
IDB Dev. r	3786	1410	-0.1
Elion	2651	676	-
Afr. 1	1350	155	+0.7
Gatweir	1350	331	-8.4
Wolfson 1 r	119000	3	-1.7
Hapoalim Inv.	4212	458	-4.7
Leumi Invest.	3995	427	-
Discount Invest.	2180	3500	-1.8
Mizrahi Invest.	17855	214	+2.3
Clal 10	2200	3023	-
Landeco 0.1	7887	s.o.t.	-5.0
Pama 0.1	8478	236	-
Oil Exploration			
Paz Oil Expl.	12600	118	-3.8
J.O.E.L.	1405	2813	-
Abbreviations:			
s.s. = sell order			
b.s. = buy order			

FINANCIAL DATA
ISRAEL EUROPE U.S.

Israel Money Markets April 15, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.25% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	LAST UPDATED	TAPAS	PAKAM 7-DAY	PAKAM 30-DAY
LEUMI	13.4	8-13.75%	8-14%	9-14.50%
HAPOLIM	13.3	7-12%	11-12%	12-12.5%
DISCOUNT	9.4	7-12%	7-13%	9-14%
MIZRAHI	8.4	6-13%	6-14%	6-16%
FIRST INT'L	12.3	6-13%	7-13%	6-13%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapes: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 90 days.)

PATAH—FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of April 15)

	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD	6.250	6.250	6.250
STG	9.375	8.875	8.825
DMK	3.875	3.875	3.750
SFR	3.500	4.375	2.250
YEN	3.250	3.125	3.125

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS	BANKNOTES	BANK OF ISRAEL Representative Rates
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1.4833	1.4877	1.4780
GRAT BRITAIN	STERLING	2.1731	2.2003	2.1842
GERMANY	MARK	0.6302	0.6381	0.6336
FRANCE	FRANC	0.1979	0.2004	0.1980
HOLLAND	GULDEN	0.5593	0.5663	0.5624
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	0.7550	0.7645	0.7586
FRANCE	FRANC	0.1958	0.2023	0.2008
SWEDEN	KRONA	0.2018	0.2044	0.2030
NORWAY	KRONE	0.1712	0.1734	0.1721
DENMARK	MARK	0.2815	0.2850	0.2830
FINLAND	DOLLAR	1.0518	1.0649	1.0578
CANADA	DOLLAR	1.0476	1.0607	1.0538
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	0.7251	0.7342	0.7297
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	0.3084	0.3122	0.3120
BELGIUM	FRANC	0.8891	0.9084	0.8934
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	0.9185	0.9310	0.9252
ITALY	LIRE	0.8208	0.8311	0.8260
JAPAN	YEN	4.00	4.00	4.00
JORDAN	DINAR	1	1	1
EGYPT	POUND	1	1	1

SUPPLIED BY BANK LEUMI

European Financial Markets

Precious Metals

GOLD:	LONDON	A.M. FIX	340.25	P.M. FIX	341.75
SILVER:	PARIS	NOON FIX	341.54	ZURICH P.M.	340.75
PLATINUM:	LONDON	FIX	545.35		
PALLADIUM:	LONDON	P.M.	426.35		
			108.40		

FOREIGN CURRENCY CROSS RATES (London 15.30GMT)

Forward Rates	SPOT	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
DEUTSCHE MARK	2.3135/50	91/88	131/126	255/245
POUND STERLING	1.4785/85	89/87	123/120	213/208
SWISS FRANC	1.9355/70	86/81	130/122	260/250
JAPANESE YEN	178.50/50	50/55	89/98	153/178
FRENCH FRANC	7.3650/90	70/100	100/150	220/230
ITALIAN LIRA	1584.25/25	1375/1550	1950/2150	3850/4150
DUTCH GULDEN	2.6085/95	69/84	98/94	192/184
BELGIAN FRANC	47.030/50	10/12	13.5/16.5	17/22
DANISH KRONER	8.5182/10	50/100	100/150	125/135
S.AFRICAN RAND	0.4830/40	26/31	48/43	80/72
EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT	0.9330/34	11/7	15/10	21/15
FINNISH MARK	6.5000/20	378/415	585/615	1160/1235
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	0.7145/52	72/71	173/181	171/181
NORWEGIAN KRONER	7.2525/75	720/610	1185/1235	2400/2440

Formula for determining forward rates:

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The U.S. strikes

THE U.S. air strikes on military and terrorist targets in Libya yesterday were a proper and justified response to the long-standing and ever-increasing threat posed by Muammar Gaddafi to humanity's hope for at least a minimum world public order. Israel, a state that Gaddafi's Libya would have wiped off the face of the earth if it could, was not a party to the military action, but the *post factum* approval of it voiced by Israeli leaders doubtless reflected a widespread national sentiment.

Apologists for Col. Gaddafi are prone to observe that there is no "conclusive" evidence identifying him as the *fons et origo* of global terrorism. But it is the Libyan dictator who, sitting as he does astride Soviet missiles and western oilfields, more than anyone else personifies the phenomenon of world-wide state-sponsored terrorism.

To leave that "mad dog of the Middle East," as President Reagan colourfully portrayed him last Thursday, untouched for fear of being bitten, would imply total surrender to beastliness as the right norm of behaviour in international relations.

It was inevitable that the U.S. would sooner or later have to seriously come to grips with the challenge of Gaddafi. The light rap on the knuckles administered by the American navy to the Libyans over freedom of navigation through the Gulf of Sidra last month merely emboldened Gaddafi to engage in more terrorism. In heatedly denying that Washington's aim had been to goad Gaddafi into a confrontation that could result in the destruction of Libya's terror bases, the U.S. defence secretary, Caspar Weinberger, made virtually certain what followed: Gaddafi's public call on his henchmen the world over to hit U.S. targets by way of reprisal.

The bombing of the West Berlin discotheque, a regular haunt of American servicemen, 11 days ago, has been directly linked by Mr. Reagan to Gaddafi's "people's bureau" in East Berlin. But it was only one of several terrorist actions evidently planned by the Libyans. Another one was a mass shooting of visitors to the U.S. embassy in Paris, discovered at the last moment and foiled by the expulsion of four Libyan agents from France. It was then plainly time for the U.S. to take to arms.

A punitive military expedition might have been put off if America's allies in Europe had consented to a programme for quarantining the aggressor.

But the Europeans would have none of it. When, pressed by the U.S. to show solidarity, the 12 foreign ministers of the community met at The Hague on Monday, all they could agree upon was a ban on the export of arms to weapon-sufficed Libya, and on restricting the movement of Libyan diplomats and nationals. At the same time they called on "all sides" — namely, the Americans — to avoid military action: meaning that they themselves would stay away.

In a final gesture of self-abasement, the foreign ministers appealed to the Libyans to renounce support for terrorism in favour of respect for international law. Their predecessors at the game would have appealed to Hitler to observe the Treaty of Versailles.

Only Britain cooperated, however grudgingly, by lending its Nato bases as springboard for F-111's ordered to drop their bombs on the Libyan coast. Even this little bit of help riled the British parliamentary opposition. Labour's Neil Kinnock charged Prime Minister Thatcher with having violated the bases agreement, and the SDP's David Owen demanded to see "legal proof" that the discotheque explosion had indeed been the work of the Libyans.

What could possibly lead socialists and social-democrats to such depths of folly unless it was opposition to opposition's sake? Mr. Kinnock and Dr. Owen may take exception to Mr. Reagan's sometimes Rambo-like stance in foreign policy, as on Nicaragua or arms control. But is that a reason for them to come out — in effect — as defenders of the burner of English books?

Libya has called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council, and it is a good bet that most members will join an appeal for a cease-fire. There should, indeed, be a cease-fire, leading to peace, but peace can only come after Muammar Gaddafi, not with him. If there are underground forces in Libya today eager to remove him they will spring into action only when assured that he will no longer be tolerated.

U.S. MIGHT HIT

(Continued from Page One)

clear — a justified action against terrorism.

Israel television's monitor Mickey Gurdus last night quoted Senator Patrick Leahy as indicating that further attacks against terror bases in Libya are to be expected.

Vice-President George Bush was asked in an interview yesterday if the U.S. was now committed to a "ladder of escalation" in responding to every act of violence against Americans. Bush replied: "I think the key point is not that we have to respond to every single event, but that we will respond."

In a nationally televised address Wednesday night, Reagan presented evidence of terror attacks against Americans carried out or planned by Libya. These included the recent bombing of a West Berlin nightclub frequented by American soldiers.

Reagan on TV referred to intercepted messages between Tripoli and the Libyan "people's bureau" in East Berlin both before and after the

West Berlin bombing. "We have solid evidence about other attacks Gaddafi has planned against U.S. installations and diplomats and even American tourists," Reagan said, arguing that the air strikes were carried out in legitimate self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

"Today," Reagan said in his address, "we have done what we had to do. If necessary, we shall do it again. It gives me no pleasure to say that, and I wish it were otherwise."

Speaking yesterday before a business group in Washington, the president again warned Gaddafi to stop plotting terrorism around the world. He said that U.S. air and naval pilots "spoke to the outlaw Libyan regime in the only language that Colonel Gaddafi seems to understand."

He cautioned that this might be only the beginning of the struggle. The U.S., he said, "won't be a single engagement in the long battle against terrorism. We will not end that struggle until the free and decent people of this planet unite to eradicate the scourge of terror from the modern world."

LIBYA URGES

(Continued from Page One)

mand post near Benghazi, and the Benina military airfield.

Western news reports from Tripoli said that at least one civilian district of the Libyan capital had been hit in the U.S. raid, causing deaths and injuries and leaving many Libyans injured and foreigners dazed and bloody.

The BBC reported that up to 100 casualties were taken to Tripoli's central hospital after the raid. A doctor at the hospital said that more wounded had been taken to other hospitals.

Foreign reporters who were escorted by government press officers to the upper-class neighbourhood called Bin Ashur — the 7th of April — saw blasted and twisted wreckage of several collapsed buildings, downed power lines, spouting water mains and people wandering in a state of angry shock.

Near the damaged neighbourhood

— about 400 metres from the damaged French Embassy — is a security headquarters which some foreigners said might have been the target of the bombing.

Near the top of a two-storey villa, the body of an elderly man was found buried in rubble. He was apparently killed when the roof collapsed.

In one of the houses several mattresses were soaked with blood. In another, reporters had to step through pools of blood to inspect the damage.

Libyan radio reported extensive damage to civilian targets, including schools and a home for disabled people, in Benghazi, 650 kilometres east of the capital.

Israel TV said that one of the targets of the U.S. raid was a missile base constructed near Benghazi after the destruction of a similar base in Tripoli during the American raid of two weeks ago.

Forbidding portfolio

SHLOMO MAOZ

MOSHE NISSIM was made a sacrificial lamb by his colleagues in order to ensure the temporary continuation of the national unity government. The new finance minister was pushed by his friends into a job that promises complete political failure to anyone who serves in the post, even if he succeeds.

Every finance minister in the past decade has been replaced and his reputation damaged, even those who succeeded, like Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Yitzhak Moda'i. The treacherous and thankless position turned on Simha Ehrlich, Yigael Hurvitz, Yoram Aridor and Yigal Cohen-Orad. Those facts are known to Ariel Sharon, David Levy and Yitzhak Shamir, who are competing for the leadership of Herut. For a moment, Shamir was tempted to take the post, but he reconsidered and reneged on his agreement to hold the forbidding portfolio. For the same reason, Sharon's candidacy was put forth only to annoy the Alignment, but Sharon had no intention of sticking his hand in the fire. In those circumstances, there was no choice but to sacrifice an innocent, while Peres, Shamir and the other high-ranking politicians rubbed their hands with glee.

A stable ruling party does not guarantee success in this high-powered post. Moreover, when it is a "national unity" government is deployed behind the finance minister, the conditions for succeeding are clearly more difficult. The position of finance minister forces its incumbent — even someone lacking in experience like Nissim — to use power, even if he tries to avoid it. He is responsible for policies of taxation, imports, exports, exchange rates, welfare services, and the industrial and agricultural sectors, even for appropriating land. Everything, theoretically even the defence budget, is in his hands.

Even though Nissim is taking over in a relatively quiet period, getting a

firm grasp of the rudder that maintains stabilization is most difficult. Peres said in a closed forum not long ago that his most pleasant surprise in the unity government has been Moshe Nissim. But while Nissim is indeed not contentious and rarely protrudes himself, Treasury officials will quickly initiate the new minister into the secrets of standing up to political pressures for more money; and he will have to confront Peres's demands for financial support for enterprises connected, with the Alignment. Even though the government has already decided on help to farmers, kibbutzim, Solel Boneh and Kupat Holim, Moda'i has so far delayed full implementation of the decision. Nissim will have to open the taps and the flow will increase appetites. He will immediately discover that Peres is also sharp in economic matters. And once again, the finance minister will need Peres, as Moda'i did at the beginning of the emergency economic programme in July 1985.

THE WHEEL of power continues to turn between the Treasury and the Histadrut. The Treasury needed the Histadrut in July 1985 and the Labour Federation gave its support by agreeing to salary erosion, with Yisrael Kessar demonstrating responsibility and taking a high personal risk. Later, the Histadrut needed the Treasury in order to rescue it from the mess of Solel Boneh and Kupat Holim. Just as Peres helped by securing Kessar's agreement in July 1985, so he helped Kessar to receive government assistance in March 1986.

Once again, the Treasury needs the Histadrut to sign new wage agreements. This is the first problem Nissim will face. Big wage increases may lead to rises in the inflation rate,

which today stands at 1.5 per cent per month. The April index, higher than recent indexes, entails a cost-of-living increment of 5 per cent. If the government wants to preserve export profitability without increasing the budget, devaluation will be inevitable. The finance minister could prevent this by lowering the costs of production — by decreasing the prices of heavy fuels and electricity for industry and agriculture.

To devalue or not is the main question facing Nissim. Should the shekel cross the 1.5-to-the-dollar line? At the Treasury during the past decade, a generation of people addicted to implementing economic steps has developed. This generation of officials demands periodic changes in economic policy. Nissim would do well to listen to others also and to make no decisions now — that is, to continue the policy of stabilizing prices and freezing the exchange rate without fluctuations. Only stability can bring investment back to the economy and lead to growth. Therefore, freezing wages as much as possible — while opening the market gradually to imports — and continuing to use money saved from cheaper oil to lower taxes, could preserve stability. The longer the economy remains stable, the more the belief in stability will grow. This stability is worth a fortune. There are even those who claim that stability is worth \$1 million a year.

Stability would allow Nissim to learn his job in peace and to concentrate on the government's next budgetary target: cutting the defence budget. For despite Syrian threats, this is the only path that will allow for the freeing of real resources for growth, raising the standard of living and motivating Jews to remain in the country or to come here as Zionists.

The writer is economic editor of The Jerusalem Post.

READERS' LETTERS

THE POPE'S VISIT TO A SYNAGOGUE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Hallelujah! The pope visited a synagogue!

What kind of a self-demeaning people are we? For centuries, Christianity has oppressed and persecuted the Jewish people. It has destroyed countless Jewish communities all over Europe. It has burned down hundreds of synagogues, making sure first that they were filled with Jews.

Before doing anything else, the pope ought to come to Jerusalem and ask the Jewish people for forgiveness for the limitless crimes Christianity has committed against it.

ELIEZER BERKOVITS
Jerusalem.

JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — It was astonishing to read, in Haim Shapiro's report from Rome of April 10, that an unnamed source "close to conservatives in the Vatican" had told him that Judaism and Christianity had mutually exclusive claims.

While understanding how an Orthodox Jew could make a statement like this (and I think I understand Jewish sensitivities in this matter), we Catholics are certain that our faith depends entirely on utter fidelity to the essential claims of Judaism.

Indeed, an apology for the teachings of Jesus cannot be made except in Jewish terms, for he claimed to be the long-awaited Messiah of his People.

DAVID BROWN
Jerusalem.

PENFRIENDS

ALEX BAUM, c/o Rose Bettis, 108-1074 Street, Jamaica, New York 11433, is handicapped and would like to have Israeli penfriends. He is interested in world affairs and collects stamps.



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WHEN WILL WE LEARN?

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — According to Aaron Leibel in "Facing the fascist danger" (April 4), "we have to educate our children in the humanist tradition, that of the Judeo-Christian and Greek worlds, in the culture of Western civilization."

Mr. Leibel's contention that the teaching of humanities and philosophy will prevent racism was tragically disproved in Hitler's Germany — the country of Goethe, Schiller, Schopenhauer and Beethoven.

One wonders why Mr. Leibel has chosen to reside in Israel if he is so concerned with Christian, Greek and Western civilization. Each year in our winter celebration of Hanukkah, we commemorate our victory over the Hellenistic culture which sought to destroy us.

When will we learn?
ELLEN L. JAFFE
Jerusalem.

"BLACK EARTH"

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Reading the article, "East of Eden" (April 3) I was astonished that the Yuval Gad construction firm did not consult a soil expert before starting to build "on unpredictable marl" (A claylike soil).

When we wanted to build a house in Hazelet, Rehovot, our building contractor, after seeing that the house would stand on "black earth," consulted a soil expert. The trial drilling showed that under the black earth was sand and only at a depth of 7 m. did he find sandstone. As a result, 17 holes were drilled to a depth of 7 m. and our house of 130 sq. m. is built one meter above ground on 17 pillars. Not a single crack has shown up on any wall, and we have lived in the house for more than 10 years.

Rehovot.
LORE LILJEN

SECULAR JUDAISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am sure that not only the undersigned, but many readers of The Post were interested in Sandra Zias's letter of April 4 about secular Judaism and would be grateful for the address of the Israel Association for Secular Humanistic Judaism.

Haifa.
U.K. UNGER

The address of the Association is P.O.B. 7110, Jerusalem 91071. — Ed. J.P.

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Dry Bones



Wasting water

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

IF YOU lock the stable after the horse is stolen you're left with an empty stable and the lingering smell of a horse. If you close the water tap after all the water has run out, then you're left with an empty pipe and not even the scent of water.

That Israel is facing a severe water shortage of crisis proportions should not really come as a surprise. The possibility has been discussed and discussed *ad infinitum* for as long as there's been anyone around to discuss it. In 1970 when the agriculture minister set up the "Kinneret Brain Trust," the subject came up at almost every meeting. Everyone knew that given the expansion of agriculture and industry, as well as the increase in urban domestic water consumption, it wouldn't take more than one or two dry winters to push the water levels well below the panic line.

But interestingly enough, although we have crossed the danger line and there is no possibility of doing anything until, hopefully, next winter's rains come, the authorities in the Water Commissioners office and the management of the national water company, Mekorot, seem to be content with muttering a few gloomy prophecies, while the minister of agriculture is strangely silent.

This, like the water shortage, is not too surprising because inertia and an attitude of "maybe it won't happen," even when it already has, is a hallmark of the Israeli establishment.

If anyone were really taking the matter seriously, we would already be on an emergency water conservation schedule. Instead, it's business as usual and the water level goes down day by day.

HAVING grown up in the American Southwest where drought and water shortage are facts of life, I find myself amazed that no effort is being made to reduce consumption. Having also lived for a time as an adult in Hongkong where the water taps were turned on three times a week for five hours, I find it hard to believe that no one is doing anything to avert the disaster which faces us.

Now is the time to slash water allowances for all sectors, ban the use of swimming pools unless the

water is recycled for other use, limit the watering of gardens and washing of cars and in general return the nation to a sane awareness of the value of water.

These steps would do little to harm most sectors because a sharp cut in water allowance, with a stiff fine or other penalty for excessive use, would in most cases do no more than stop the waste. And there's a lot of water being wasted. There's hardly an agricultural settlement that does not have a permanent leak of some sizeable proportion, and opening a waterline to the wadi and letting the water run out, in order to use up all the allowance so it won't be, perhaps, reduced next year is common practice in a number of Negev kibbutzim. In addition, few industries have any water-saving devices. The toilet flush box adapter that cuts down the water used for flushing by half is almost unavailable in the shops and no mention of it is ever seen in print.

The water management authorities themselves are no less lax. At Sha'ar Hagai near Jerusalem, there is a broken water pipe in an open field. (It unless it has been repaired in the past six months) has been leaking continuously at a rate of three to four c.m. a day since March 1970, when I first reported it to Mekorot. How many years it had leaked before that I cannot say, but Mekorot has not, throughout the years, repaired the pipe. According to Mekorot, the pipe belongs to a neighbouring moshav. The moshav denies ownership and it appears that the pipe is something left over from a previous water system, long since replaced. Having no owner, the pipe goes unrepaired. Anyone who wishes to calculate the water wasted or the alternative uses to which it might have been put.

All of this is hard to understand. After all, miracles are nice to contemplate but they do not always happen on schedule. We are running out of water and this is one commodity that even our best friends abroad cannot send us. The time for action is now, and a public that fails to demand it will ultimately deserve the dripest taps that it may get.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

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